

The following questions were asked by attendees of the Restoration of Social Recreation Services Webinars held on June 28-29, 2022.

STARTING SOCIAL RECREATION SERVICES

Q. How do we start the process to receive Social Recreation and/or Camp Services?

A. First, request an IPP meeting to talk with your Service Coordinator about how you are doing and why you need the new service. You can ask for an IPP meeting at any time. When asking for your service, be sure to explain why you need the service and how that service is related to your developmental disability.

Q. Do inclusive programs allow for individual supports?

A. Regional centers are committed to removing barriers to access Social Recreation and Camp services and may fund supports to make participation in community programs possible.

Q. Is it possible to receive funding for Social Recreation programs I'm currently participating in?

A. It may be possible if it is identified as a need in your IPP. Regional centers must enter into contracts with the provider (known as "vendorization") in order to be able to pay. Please contact your Service Coordinator for further information.

Q. When will Social Recreation Services Camp begin?

A. As of July 1, 2021, regional centers can pay for camp, Social Recreation, and other related services under the Lanterman Act. You can ask for an IPP meeting at any time to start the process. Regional centers are finding service providers to offer these services.

SERVICE RULES

Q. Is there a list of Social Recreation and Camp service providers?

Each regional center has developed an outreach plan to tell their community about Social Recreation services. Please contact your local regional center for specific information on services available in your area.

Q. Who works with the service providers to make sure their classes can support people with disabilities?

A. Regional centers make sure service providers understand their responsibility in this area. Regional centers offer trainings and advice to service providers. For information on specific programs and how they function, please reach out to your regional center service coordinator.

Q. Would horseback riding/therapy fall under Social Recreation?

A. Horseback riding therapy would fall under the regional center funding category of non-medical therapy, which is also a service regional centers can purchase if needed and included in a person's IPP.

Q. Regional centers reimburse for services after the service has been delivered. Is payment after receiving the service, a requirement?

A. Yes, paying for services after they have been provided is required under state and federal billing rules. Regional centers are talking to the state about how to make this work better.

Q. Is there an age limit to these services?

A. Social Recreation and Camp services might be available based on the IPP for anyone found eligible for regional center service as having a developmental disability or who have been found provisionally eligible. Young children who qualify only for the Early Start program are not eligible.

Q. If I'm currently living in a residential home funded by the regional center, can I receive Social Recreation and Camp services?

A. It is the responsibility of residential programs to provide social and recreational activities. The IPP team can discuss options for an individual who wants to pursue other interests.

Q. Do Social Recreation and Camp programs have to include people without disabilities as well?

A. In general, because of the HCBS Final Rule, services that regional centers can pay for also include people without disabilities.

Q. What do I do if my request for the service is denied?

A. If you request a service and it is denied, you can appeal that decision. Information about that process can be found [here](#). Your regional center service coordinator will help you start the appeal process if you ask them to.

VENDORIZATION AND FUNDING

Q. What does “vendorization” mean?

A. Vendorization is the process for identification, selection, contracting, and use of service providers based on whether they meet the qualifications to provide the services. If interested in being vendored, please contact your regional center’s Community Services Division.

Q. Regional centers must receive approval of service standards from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). What if the regional center hasn’t received the necessary approval from DDS?

A. Each regional center has developed guidelines for Social Recreation and Camp services and updated its purchase of service (POS) policies to reflect the change. DDS must approve each regional center’s updated policy. Regional centers can begin purchasing Social Recreation and Camp services while they wait for DDS approval.

Q. Is there a cap on how much regional centers will reimburse?

A. Each regional center has a policy about the purchase of these services, but there are sometimes exceptions based on individual need. How much a regional center will pay will be determined through the planning team process and in line with its Purchase of Service Policy.

Q. Are there rules about the type of allowable Camp or Social Recreation program regional centers pay for?

A. Regional centers use a combination of state and federal funds to pay for services. Services must follow what is called the “Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule” by March 2023. The Final Rule makes sure people have full access to their communities and to people without disabilities. Some exceptions may apply to camps because they are a one-time service.

Q. How do I become a service provider for Social Recreation and Camp?

A. Regional centers are requesting that individuals or companies interested in providing Social Recreation and/or Camp services contact the regional center’s community services division as soon as possible.

Q. Can all regional centers fund for Social Recreation and Camp services?

A. Yes, the ability for all regional centers to purchase Social Recreation and Camp services was restored in July 2021.