



Life with the Power of Choice and Possibilities

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February 1, 2021

Dear Service Provider,

In January 2014, the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services issued final regulations, or rules, for **Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS)**. The rules require that HCBS programs funded through Medicaid (called Medi-Cal in California) provide individuals with disabilities full access to the benefits of community living and offer services and supports in settings that are integrated in the community. This *could* include ***opportunities to seek employment in competitive and integrated settings, control personal resources, and engage in the community to the same degree as individuals who do not receive regional center services.*** The HCBS rules focus on the nature and quality of individuals' experiences and not just the settings where the services are delivered.

In recognition that services look different during the COVID-19 public health crisis and some service providers need to take steps towards modifying their services to come into compliance with the HCBS rules by March 2023, the 2020 enacted budget contains \$15 million to fund necessary changes.

Service Providers who are eligible for HCBS Grant funds, to bring their services into compliance with the HCBS Final Rule includes: **Residential** (Service Codes: 096, 113, 904, 905, 915, 910, 920) **Day Program**: (Service Codes: 028, 055, 063, 475, 505, 510, 515, 855) **Employment Services** (Service Codes: 950, 954)

Application Process

1. Providers must submit completed concepts to regional centers by **February 12, 2021**.
2. Regional centers must submit completed concepts and evaluations to the Department by February 26, 2021.
3. The Department will review the concepts and notify regional centers of selected concepts by April 30, 2021.
4. Regional centers and providers whose concepts were selected may enter into a contract agreement.

The Home and Community Based Services Provider Compliance Funding Guidelines for Fiscal Year 20-21 can be found here:

https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/HCBS_Funding_Guidelines_FY_20_21.pdf

Applicants must submit a completed Compliance Evaluation and Concept Form (Attachment C) and Concept Budget Template for each vendor # that they wish to receive Grant funding for.

Submit the completed Attachment C and Concept Budget to Resource Development Division Manager, Robert Fernandez no later than 5 pm on February 12, 2021 by email ONLY: rfernandez@vmrc.net

An informational session will be held Via ZOOM on:

Wednesday, February 10th from 11:00-12:00

<https://zoom.us/j/92581023233> Meeting ID: 925 8102 3233

Sincerely,


Director of Community Services