

**San Diego Regional Center**  
**Purchase of Service Standards**  
***Social Recreation Activities, Camp Services,***  
***Nonmedical Therapies, and Educational Services***

**Social / Recreation Activities and associated travel expenses**

The San Diego Regional Center (SDRC) recognizes that all persons, regardless of their disability, enjoy and benefit from participating in social and recreational opportunities throughout their lifetime. For many clients, an individual's social/recreational needs and interests can be achieved through the natural environment within their family's activities or residential service program. In addition, clients are often involved with social/recreational activities as part of their educational or day program services. In general, adult clients, parents of children living at home, or the primary care provider of children and adults in residential placement settings, have the responsibility, for pursuing, and/or providing ongoing opportunities for social and recreational activities. Regional Center is available to assist with identifying activities and providers available in the local community.

Social/recreational services are designed to enhance social interaction opportunities and skills, which enable the client to become involved in group and individual activities at home and within the community. Such services encourage clients to initiate communication with others, teach appropriate social skills, develop friendships, and enhance natural supports. Social/recreational services are considered time-limited, with periodic reassessment, and are intended for clients to acquire the social, behavioral, and/or recreational skill(s) identified in the Individual Program Plan (IPP) or Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP). The review and determination of the need for social recreation, camping, and nonmedical therapies must be rooted in the Individual Program Plan (IPP) process. The provision of services to clients and their families should be effective in meeting the goals stated in the IPP, reflect the preferences and choices of the client, and reflect the cost-effective use of public resources. Resources which provide outlets and services for social/recreational opportunities can include, but are not limited to, family, friends, schools, residential settings, day services, independent living and supported living programs, municipal parks and recreational programs, and other generic community activities and services.

Social and recreational services may be provided, arranged, or purchased by the SDRC in accordance with the ***Basic Service Standards*** outlined in the ***SDRC Purchase of Service (POS) Standards***, and when all of the following criteria are met:

1. The client has limited or no socialization or recreation resources similar to, or as listed above, available to them;
2. The need for the service is identified in the client's IPP or IFSP and a specific goal/outcome has been developed by the planning team in relation to the need;
3. The identified service meets required Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) regulations;

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4. The service is not considered a duplication of service related to another funded service.

Funding for transportation related to accessing social / recreational activities will be assessed on an individual basis.

SDRC may consider funding for necessary supports to facilitate meaningful participation in social / recreational activities.

#### **Camp and associated travel expenses**

Camp and associated travel expenses may be provided, arranged, or purchased by the SDRC in accordance with the **Basic Service Standards** outlined in the **SDRC Purchase of Service (POS) Standards**, and when all of the following criteria are met:

1. The need for the service is identified in the client's IPP or IFSP and a specific goal/outcome has been developed by the planning team in relation to the need;
2. The client's ability to participate does not compromise his/her health and safety;
3. The identified camp meets required HCBS regulations;
4. The service is not considered a duplication of service related to another funded service.

Funding for transportation related to accessing camp will be assessed on an individual basis.

SDRC may consider funding for necessary supports to facilitate meaningful participation in camp activities.

#### **Non-Medical Therapies (including but not limited to specialized recreation, art, dance, and music) and associated travel expenses:**

Non-Medical Therapeutic Services may be provided, arranged, or purchased by the SDRC in accordance with the **Basic Service Standards** outlined in the **SDRC Purchase of Service (POS) Standards**, and when all of the following criteria are met:

1. The need for the service is identified in the client's IPP or IFSP and a specific goal/outcome has been developed by the planning team in relation to the need;
2. The specialized service meets the regulatory criteria of a non-medical therapy outlined in Title 17;
3. The identified service meets required Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) regulations;
4. The service is not considered a duplication of service related to another funded service.

Please note that traditional Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, and Behavior Therapies are considered **Medical** Therapies and are subject to different criteria.

Funding for transportation related to accessing Non-Medical Therapies will be assessed on an individual basis.

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SDRC may consider funding for necessary supports to facilitate meaningful participation in Non-Medical Therapies.

**Use of Participant-Directed Services (PDS) for Social Recreation, Camping Services, and Non-Medical Therapies.**

Social recreation, Camp, and non-medical therapies may be purchased through a Financial Management Service (FMS) if the provider of these services is:

- 1) Not vendored by the Regional Center; and,
- 2) The provider's service is primarily delivered to individuals who do not receive regional center services.

The FMS shall be used to pay the provider directly and not to reimburse the individual or family for the cost of the service.

**Educational Services (for children 3 – 17, inclusive, years of age)**

In general, education is the responsibility of the school system for the school-aged child.

Preschool services are designed for children who are at least 3 years of age and include programs specifically for children with a developmental disability who are not eligible for a public-school program. Preschool programs should provide children with the skills necessary to begin functioning in a school setting including social skills, communication skills, group interaction, listening and attending skills, and basic pre-academic concepts. Regional Center may purchase preschool education when documentation has been presented indicating the non-availability of a publicly funded developmental/educational program for the child. A preschool program is not intended to serve as child care for families.

The Service Coordinator is available to attend Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings to assist the client and family with educational planning. Advocacy services will be considered as an exemption when all other generic services have been exhausted, such as the school district ombudsperson, legal aid services, and SELPAs. Service Coordinators will assist with connecting families and empower them to utilize community resources such as the Office of Client Rights Advocacy (OCRA) and State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD).

**Exceptions**

Exceptions to these standards will be considered on an individual basis, and reviewed with the Planning Team. When reviewing a request for exception, SDRC will consider the individual circumstances, and efforts to locate and participate in generic resources.

**Authority**

W&I Code Section 4688.22

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W&I Code Section 4519.5(a)(8)

W&I Code Section 4512

W&I Code Section 4646

W&I Code Section 4646.4

W&I Code Section 4648.5

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