

SELF-DETERMINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE



As required by law, each regional center must establish a Local Volunteer Advisory Committee to ensure effective implementation of the Self-Determination Program and facilitate the sharing of best practices and training materials. The committee members must include consumers, family members, the regional center clients' rights advocate, other advocates and community leaders, and must reflect the multicultural diversity and geographic profile of the catchment area.

What is the Self-Determination Program?

In October of 2013, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. signed into law the Self-Determination Program, which will provide consumers and their families with more freedom, control, and responsibility in choosing services and supports to help them meet objectives in their Individual Program Plan.

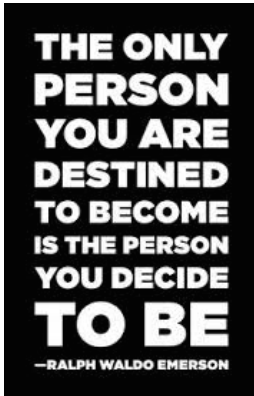
According to former Department of Developmental Services Director Santi J. Rogers, "all individuals, regardless of ability, have the right to access the basic elements that make-up a good life, beginning with: family, independence, personal responsibility, and freedom of choice. The Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act builds upon these basic fundamentals so that all individuals have the right to live their lives as they choose.

Similarly, the principles of Self-Determination include:

- **Freedom** to exercise the same rights as all citizens; to establish, with freely chosen supports, family and friends, where they want to live, with whom they want to live, how their time will be occupied, and who supports them;
- **Authority** to control a budget in order to purchase services and supports of their choosing;
- **Support**, including the ability to arrange resources and personnel, which will allow flexibility to live in the community of their choice;
- **Responsibility**, which includes the opportunity to take responsibility for making decisions in their own lives and accept a valued role in their community, and
- **Confirmation**, in making decisions in their own lives by designing and operating the service that they rely on.

Freedom	Control	Authority
Choice	Dreaming	Risk
Relationships	Creativity	Contribution
Support	Respect	Responsibility

It is through this "Self-Determination Program" that all individuals are able to access what everyone deserves - "a good life."



To learn more about Self-Determination, please watch the video below.

Informational Video: English

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5nsK9je-nA>

Informational Video: **Translated** in Arabic, Armenian, Cambodian, Chinese (simplified), Chinese (mandarin), Farsi, Hmong, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/SDP/videos.cfm>

Self-Determination Program Enrollment

During the first three years of the Self-Determination Program, enrollment is limited to 2,500 people. To help ensure the selection of the 2,500 participants is equitable, the following process was developed by the Self-Determination Program advisory group.

What does someone need to do to be considered for enrollment?

- 1 Participate in a required Pre-Enrollment Informational Meeting at your regional center.** It's important to hear, in greater detail, information about the Self-Determination Program. At this meeting, people will learn not only about the opportunities but also the increased responsibilities involved in accepting more control over coordinating their services. Understanding this information will help people decide if the Self-Determination Program might be a good option for them.
- 2 After participating in the required Pre-Enrollment Informational Meeting, let the regional center know you're interested in enrolling in the Self-Determination Program.** After you have participated in the required Pre-Enrollment Informational Meeting and you think that Self-Determination is a good option for you or your family member, you must let the regional center know you're interested in enrolling in the Self-Determination Program. As discussed below, this does not guarantee you will be selected as part of the first 2,500 participants.

What happens after someone participates in the required Pre-Enrollment Informational Meeting and lets the regional center know they're interested?

- 1 Regional centers send names of those interested to the Department of Developmental Services.** Only those consumers/family members who have participated in a required Pre-Enrollment Informational Meeting will be eligible for enrollment in the Self-Determination program.

- 2 **The Department of Developmental Services will send confirmation to those whose names were forwarded by the regional centers.**

- 3 **The Department of Developmental Services will *randomly* select the first 2,500 enrollees from among those who have attended a required Pre-Enrollment Informational Meeting.** This selection will be made from the names of those received by the Department of Developmental Services from the regional centers. The selection takes into consideration the following factors to ensure those selected are representative of the statewide regional center population:
 - Regional Center
 - Ethnicity
 - Age
 - Gender
 - Disability diagnosis

- 4 **Those selected can enroll in the Self-Determination Program.** The enrollment will be done through the regional centers who will work with each participant to enroll in orientation, establish an individual budget, etc.

- 5 **If not selected initially, consumers will remain on the interest list for future enrollment opportunities.**



Frequently asked questions

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/SDP/faq.cfm>

Self-Determination Statutes

http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=WIC§ionNum=4685.8.#content_anchor

**SELF-DETERMINATION ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING:
(LINK OR PDF COPIES)**