

USE THIS GUIDE TO KEEP TRACK OF THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO MAKE A REFERRAL TO THE REGIONAL CENTER

REGIONAL CENTERS help the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) coordinate and deliver services for people with developmental disabilities. This includes children who have or are at risk for developmental delays.

Development is growth for a child in any of these five areas:

- **Motor:** Moving hands, arms, legs and other body parts to do things
- **Cognitive:** Thinking, reasoning, solving problems
- **Language and speech:** Understanding words, talking, and expressing self
- **Social and emotional:** Relating to others, understanding and expressing thoughts and feelings without using words, controlling feelings
- **Adaptive skills:** Caring for and helping self, such as eating, getting dressed, bathing

WHICH REGIONAL CENTER SHOULD I CONTACT TO START SERVICES?

Regional Center	Areas Served	Intake Department
East Los Angeles Regional Center (ELARC)	Eastern LA County including Alhambra and Whittier	Telephone and Online Referrals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children 0-3: (626) 299-4777 or (626) 299-4691 Apply online at: http://www.elarc.org/consumers-families/apply-for-services • Children 3 & up: (626) 299-4770 or (626) 299-4759
Harbor Regional Center (HRC)	Southern LA County including Bellflower, Harbor City, Long Beach, and Torrance	Telephone and Email Referrals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children 0-3: (310) 543-7927 Email: intakeunder3@harborrc.org • Children 3 & up: (310) 542-7928 Email: intakeover3@harborrc.org
Lanterman Regional Center (LRC)	Central LA County Including Burbank, Glendale, Pasadena, Downtown LA, Hollywood, Wilshire, La Cañada, La Crescenta, Eagle Rock, and Foothill	Telephone and Online Referrals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children 0-3: (213) 383-1300 • Children 3 & up: (213) 383-1300 • For more information, go to: https://lanterman.org/applying-for-regional-centerservices#.Wr5nhcvsuQ
North Los Angeles Regional Center (NLARC)	San Fernando, Santa Clarita, and Antelope Valleys	Online Referrals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply online at: https://www.nlacrc.org/about-us/eligibility
South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC)	Southern LA County including Compton, Gardena, and Downey	Fax and Online Referrals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children 0-3: Fax referral form to (213) 947-4115 Email: earlystartintake@sclarc.org
Westside Regional Center (WRC)	West LA, from Malibu in the north to Gardena in the South	Fax and Online Referrals <i>complete application, scan and submit</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children 0-3: Fax to (310) 258-4059 Email: intakeunder3@westsiderc.org • Children 3 & above: Fax to (310) 338-9597 Email to: intakeover3@westsiderc.org

REGIONAL CENTER REFERRAL GUIDE

WHAT CAN THE REGIONAL CENTER DO?

Based on your child's developmental needs and your family's concerns, priorities, and resources, Regional Center [services may include](#):

- Evaluation and diagnosis
- Assistive technology, including devices or services
- Audiology and hearing services
- Counseling, home visits, training for your family
- Community resources
- Nutrition services
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Speech and language services

The Early Start Program provides [early intervention services](#) to infants and toddlers with

- a) Developmental delay
- b) High risk for developmental delays or disabilities due to prematurity, prenatal exposure to drugs/alcohol, or having a parent with a developmental disability
- c) An established risk condition for developmental delays such as Down Syndrome or cerebral palsy.

These services help children learn and help families to promote their children's development. Children and their families may receive a variety of services – some families need many services, while others may need only one or two.

The Lanterman Act is the California law that says [children with developmental disabilities and their families have a right to needed services and supports](#) from the Regional Center. **Developmental disabilities** include *autism, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, intellectual disability*, or anything that makes a child need the same kind of support as someone with an intellectual disability.

The Regional Center

1. Gives families information to make good choices about needed services for their child.
2. Helps families find and get the needed services.
3. Makes sure the services and supports in the community meets their needs. This includes working with schools to help coordinate Special Education services.

HOW DO I GET STARTED AT THE REGIONAL CENTER?

Contact the [intake department](#) at the Regional Center if you have any of the following concerns –

If your child is under 3 years old and has:
- a significant delay in at least one area of development - a condition with a known probability of causing a disability or delay - at risk for a developmental delay or disability
If your child is 3 years old and up and has:
- been diagnosed with autism, cerebral palsy, intellectual disability, epilepsy - any other diagnosis that makes a person need the same kind of support as someone with an intellectual disability - developmental delays that have not been properly evaluated and you suspect a developmental disability

WHO CAN REFER TO THE REGIONAL CENTER?

Anyone can call! Parents, family members, foster parents, doctors, therapists, and teachers... (Professional providers must have the permission of a parent or legal guardian to make a referral.)

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I CONTACT THE REGIONAL CENTER?

1. Regional Center receives your information
2. You are assigned a service coordinator to begin the process of evaluation for eligibility
3. Regional Center will contact you to complete an intake assessment. They will collect information about your child, such as medical records, school records, and prior psychological testing. A diagnostic evaluation involving psychological testing and observation may also be completed. *You can expect a phone call from an unknown number, so be sure to answer the call in order to stay on the Regional Center referral list.*
4. The process to determine eligibility for services should be completed within 45 days.

Date:

Name:	Date of Birth:	
Address:	City:	Zip Code:
Telephone:		
Primary Caregiver(s):		
Preferred Language:		

Dear Regional Center,

I am requesting an eligibility assessment of my child for **Early Start** services.

My child may have/has:

- Developmental delay (s) – see below for details
- At *high risk* of having a substantial developmental disability (prematurity, small for gestational age, neonatal seizures, biomedical insult, congenital anomalies, failure to thrive, prenatal exposure to drugs/alcohol/ known teratogens, hypo/hypertonia, parent with developmental disability, etc.)

Details _____

- Cerebral Palsy Down Syndrome Epilepsy (refractory to treatment) Low Incidence Disability (e.g., blindness, deafness)

My child has a delay in the following developmental areas:

AREAS OF DEVELOPMENT	EXAMPLES/EVIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> Cognitive (thinking, reasoning)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communication (speech, language)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Social or Emotional	
<input type="checkbox"/> Physical or Motor (movement)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adaptive (self-help skills)	

Enclosed are the following summaries, assessments, notes and documents to support the above:

- ASQ-3 MCHAT-R
- Other Developmental Screener: _____

I look forward to your response within 15 working days. The best way to reach me is:

- Home/Cell Phone _____ Mail to the address listed above
- Other _____

Sincerely,

Parent/Guardian Signature

Print Name

Provider Signature

Print Name