

**Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center
Self Directed Services (SDS)
FACT SHEET and FAQs**

What We Know Right Now About SDS

Self Directed Services (SDS) is set to roll out in California very soon. ELARC has been a “pilot” center for Self Determination since 1999. SDS will be different from Self Determination in some ways and the same in others. Important points to remember:

- In SDS people will be given a budget from which they can purchase their supports and services.
- It will be a new way of doing Regional Center business.
- It will not be for everyone, it will be voluntary.
- There will be training for everyone (staff, families, consumers, vendors, the public, etc) when it rolls out.
- We do not have an exact roll out date. The State (DDS) had planned for ELARC to roll it out in late summer. There needs to be the securing of a federal waiver and the approval of state regulations. This is still in process by DDS.
- Because SDS will likely go through changes in the waiver and regulatory approval process, Regional Centers are holding off on hosting large public information sessions. ELARC is also not making any organizational changes at this time.
- The DDS Website has the latest information at www.dds.ca.gov
- Participation in SDS is not appealable because it has not started yet. Once SDS starts, participants will have specific rights regarding budget appeals and fair hearing rights.
- SDS is not the expansion of the ELARC Self Determination project; it will be a new program available to everyone. The Self Determination program is closed, by law.
- Participation in Self Determination is not appealable. Per the Lanterman Act, this project is closed.

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Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is SDS?**
 - Self Directed Services will be a way that Regional Center delivers services. It means you have your own budget from which you can purchase your services and supports. The details on how this would work will be covered in orientation sessions that this Regional Center will be hosting. Those dates are not set yet; at this point we are urging people to explore the DDS website for more information beyond what the brochure covers.
- **Is there a waiting list for SDS?**
 - There is no waiting list but you can give your name to your Service Coordinator who can take your name and send you more info as it is received. Our Regional Center will be hosting orientation sessions. As soon as those are scheduled, the dates will be posted on our website. The DDS website has more information on SDS.
- **How do I know if I qualify for SDS?**
 - The exact enrollment criteria for SDS are explained in the basic informational material from DDS. We do not have that material yet. When our Regional Center sets up the orientation sessions, this will be explained in detail. Those are not scheduled yet. The DDS website also has more information on SDS.
- **Why aren't those orientation sessions scheduled?**
 - The implementation of SDS involves approval of state regulations and a federal waiver; those are in process right now. The exact orientation materials are in development with the state and once all approvals are in place and the materials are final, we will proceed with the orientations.
- **If I want SDS, will I have to get a new Service Coordinator?**
 - We don't know that yet. Our Regional Center is still finalizing plans for implementation. Once we know from the state that the approvals are all in place, we will better know how SDS will impact service coordination here.
- **Can I see the proposed regulations?**
 - Yes, your opinion is valuable. Information on the regulations are posted on the DDS website, along with the application for the federal waiver. The state will be holding public hearings about the regulations soon, as soon as those are scheduled; the dates will be posted on our website.