

California Resource Guide

Developmental Disabilities Services:

Department of Developmental Services

1600 9th Street, PO Box 944202, Sacramento, CA 94244

(916) 654-1690

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/>

Helpful tips: The list of Regional Centers with their contact information is on this website.

Medicaid (known as Medi-Cal) and Medicaid Waiver:

Department of Health Care Services

www.dhcs.ca.gov

Each county in California has their own Medi-Cal office. The website above lists the contact information for every office in every county of California

Helpful tips: Your child can qualify for Medi-Cal even if you don't meet their income criteria as long as you have Medicaid Waiver. Your case manager at your Regional Center in your county is the one who usually refers you to Medi-Cal in order to qualify for this waiver. (Be sure to ask your case manager about the waiver.)

Medi-Cal Eligibility Information

PO Box 99417, MS4607, Sacramento, CA 95899

(916) 552-9200

Social Security Income:

Social Security Department

(800) 772-1213

www.ssa.gov (refer to website for contact information for each county in California)

Helpful tips: depending on your family's income your child with CdLS may qualify for SSI before the age of 18. They will qualify at age 18 after applying and Social Security receives the doctor's report. You should apply approximately 30 days before your child's 18th birthday. You may qualify for more than the minimum SSI benefit if you state your child is paying for their share of household expenses. Social Security will determine if your family meets the criteria in order to qualify for a higher benefit.

Early Intervention Services (for child under three):

Department of Developmental Services

1600 9th Street, PO Box 944202, Sacramento, CA 94244

(916) 654-1690

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/earlystart/>

Helpful tips: Ask about early intervention services as soon as possible, as there can be a waiting list for these services.



Respite Services:

There are different respite services available depending on your child's health care needs. Your county's Regional Center should be the first agency to provide respite services. If your child has health issues that require certain care, then you may qualify for respite hours through the Medi-Cal EPSDT Program. To qualify for this, your child must have Medi-Cal and the Medicaid Waiver. Your Regional Center case manager should refer you to this program. The EPSDT Program ends at age 21. After that, you need to apply for respite services through the Medi-Cal In-Home Operations Program. Each of these programs would access your child's medical needs to determine if they qualify for their program. If you do, services will likely be provided by a nursing agency. Each program provides many more hours of respite than the Regional Centers.

In Home Support Services:

Department of Social Services

www.dss.cahwnet.gov

The website lists contact information for your county's office.

Helpful tips: You may be eligible for this service even if your child is under the age of 18 years, depending on your income. If your child had Medi-Cal and Medicaid Waiver, then your income is not taken into consideration. After age 18, Medicaid Waiver is not required in order to apply.

Services for adults ages 18 – 20:

Regional Center

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/RC/RCList.cfm>

The website lists contact information for your county's office.

Helpful tips:

Every child with developmental disabilities is eligible to stay in the school system until age 21. Their goals are determined at their annual Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Services for adults, 21 years and older:

Department of Rehabilitation in your county

<http://www.rehab.cahwnet.gov/>

Regional Center

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/RC/RCList.cfm>

The website lists contact information for your county's office.

Helpful tips:

There are many day and residential programs available for adults with developmental disabilities. Your family is encouraged to work with your child's case manager from the Regional Center to visit these programs and to determine what would best fit your family's needs.



California Children's Services:

<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Services/CCS/Pages/default.aspx>

The website lists contact information for your county's office.

Helpful tips:

This agency is a state program for children up to age 21 with certain diseases and health problems. If you qualify, they can provide physical and occupational therapies, coverage for doctor visits, special equipment and medical supplies. (They are last payer, you insurance and/or Medi-Cal pays first.)

