

**Similarities and Differences between
Traditional Regional Center Service Provision
and the New Self-Determination Program**

	Traditional Regional Center Service Provision	Self-Determination Program
Eligibility - Age	All ages	Everyone over age 3. Under age 3 must be eligible for Lanterman Act services (not Early Start)
Eligibility – Living Arrangement	All settings	Must live in community. Can use SDP in developmental center or licensed long-term health facility if you are expected to move to the community within 90 days
Planning Process	Individual Program Plan (IPP) - Meeting where goals are established and services and supports are decided	Person Centered Plan (PCP) – A group of people focus on an individual and that person's vision of what they would like to do in the future. The IPP team shall use the Person Centered Planning process to develop the IPP and the Individual Budget.
Frequency of planning process	IPP at least every three years, annually at most regional centers, or within 30 days of a request	PCP at least annually but as often as needed. Still hold IPPs with service coordinator at regional center.
Who decides what services and who provides them?	Regional Center and IPP Team	Consumers and/or their families
Who pays the bills?	Regional Center	Financial Management Service (FMS)
Responsibilities of consumers and families	Participate in IPPs	Attend formal information session, orientation and trainings on the Self-Determination Program; Active in creating plan; Active in designing individual budget; Active in selecting services and supports; Work with FMS to ensure monthly and annual budgets are kept; Monitor and supervise staff and agencies hired.

	Traditional Regional Center Service Provision	Self-Determination Program
Do services have to be provided by vendors of the regional center?	Yes, except in very limited circumstances.	No, except for the FMS
Who finds the service providers?	Regional Center	Consumer, Family, Independent Facilitator, Financial Management Services, Friends, etc
Does regional center monitor the quality of a service provider?	Yes	No. Consumers and families with assistance of facilitator evaluate quality of services.
What kind of services can be arranged?	Subject to restrictions of the legislature and preferences of regional center.	Must be matched by federal funds, which includes a wide range of services. Services allowed also include suspended or limited services, such as social/recreational programs, camp, non-medical therapies, and respite.
Are services that are available through generic agencies like schools or Medi-Cal paid by regional center or through my budget?	No	No
Can you change service providers?	Yes, if regional center agrees	Yes
Do I have appeal rights?	Yes	Yes



For Individuals



For Independent Facilitators



For Service Providers

Find an
Independent Facilitator?

Find a
Service Provider

Find your
Regional Center

The Principles of
Self Determination

Search for
Information



Welcome to
**The California Self-Determining
Program Network!**

Connecting Self-Determining California
independent facilitators and other service
providers.

*The SDP Network was developed in partnership with the
Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center and Education Specialists.*

Note: No information is gathered or tracked on individuals and organizations.

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California Self-Determining Program Network

Possible Questions for Independent Facilitators

1. How much do you know about California's Self-Determination Program? You want to make sure they understand the principles of self-determination and how the program is different from the traditional regional center system. For example, the SOP participant is in charge of who gets hired and supervising staff and agencies. Bills go to an FMS. Services must provide community inclusion. Provider does not need to be a vendor or have a contract with the regional center.
2. What experience have you had as an Independent Facilitator?
3. Have you had any training to be an Independent Facilitator?
4. Have you ever facilitated a person-centered plan?
 - o How many?
 - o What is your style?
 - o How do you prepare?
5. How well do you know my community?
 - o Are you aware of activities in my area that I might be interested in?
6. How would you go about helping me to find services to help me meet my goals?
7. How will you help me figure out my budget?
8. Can you advocate for me at my IPP?
 - o At my IEP?
 - o To get benefits, such as 551 or IHSS?
9. Do you also help manage workers?
 - o How do you do that?
 - o How would you help me if I am unhappy with the job that one of my workers is doing?
10. How will you keep in touch with other members of my support team?
11. I have certain things that are really important to me, like _____. As a facilitator, you will adapt your services to meet my specific needs and preferences?
12. Are you willing to negotiate a price based on my specific needs?
13. How much will you charge for my services?
14. When are you available to start?
15. How will you keep in touch with other members of my support team?

Financial Management Service (FMS) Contact List

Please select your Regional Center below to see which FMS providers are currently available. If you would like to work with an FMS provider not listed under your Regional Center, please contact your Regional Center.

More information about the different FMS models can be found in the FMS Model Comparison chart. View the FMS Model Comparison Chart in [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Arabic](#), [Hmong](#), [Japanese](#), [Korean](#), [Laotian](#), [Russian](#), [Simplified Chinese](#), [Traditional Chinese](#), [Tagalog](#) or [Vietnamese](#).

The roles and requirements for the FMS provider can be found in the Financial Management Service Information directive. To view this directive in English and other languages, visit the [Program Directives page](#), find the drop down for "Financial Management Services- December 2018" and select your preferred language.

Show All

Alta

Central Valley

Eastern LA

Far Northern

Lanternman

Golden Gate

Harbor

Inland

Kern

North Bay

North LA

Redwood Coast

East Bay

Orange County

San Andreas

San Diego

San Gabriel/ Pomona

South Central LA

Tri-Counties

Valley Mountain

Westside

Acumen

Aveanna Support Services (Formerly Premier Healthcare Services)

Cambrian FMS

Available FMS Services

Bill Payer and Sole Employer

Languages Spoken

English and Spanish

Available FMS Services

Available FMS Services

Bill Payer and Co-Employer (with nursing through home health agency only)

Bill Payer, Sole Employer
and Co-Employer

Lan guages Spoken

English, Spanish,
Vietnamese, Tagalog, Farsi

Acumen

Available FMS Services

Bill Payer and Sole Employer

Languages Spoken

English and Spanish

Contact Phone Number

Yvette Torres - 424-210-8810

Email Contact

yvette@acumen2.net

Aveanna Support Services{Formerly Premier Healthcare Services}

Available FMS Services

Bill Payer and Co-Employer (with nursing through home health agency only)

Currently not accepting new referrals until January 2024

Languages Spoken

English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin and Trieu Chau

Contact Phone Number

Northern California: 866-979-1182

Southern California: 310-215-1730

Email Contact

Northern California: SJSDP@aveanna.com

Southern California: FMSInfo@aveanna.com

Cambrian FMS

Available FMS Services

Bill Payer, Sole Employer and Co-Employer

Languages Spoken

English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Farsi

Contact Phone Number

Paul Quiroz - 877-390-4300

Email Contact

Paul Quiroz - Paul.Q@CFMSc.com

Types of Financial Management Services for Self-Determination Program Participants

As discussed in the [FMS FAQs](#) on the Department's website, each participant in the Self-Determination Program must use a regional center vendored Financial Management Services (FMS) provider. There are three types of FMS providers: 1. Bill Payor or Fiscal Agent, this model is used when goods or services are purchased from a business; 2. Co-Employer, this model is used when the participant wants to share some of the employer roles and responsibilities with an FMS and 3. Sole Employer, also known as the Fiscal/Employer Agent), this model is used when a participant wants to be the direct employer of those providing services.

This chart shows how tasks and responsibilities are divided between you and your FMS provider.

Tasks	Type of FMS Model		
	Bill Payer	Co-Employer	Sole Employer
Pays for items and services identified in your spending plan from other businesses or vendors	FMS	FMS	FMS
Who Hires Individuals Who Provide Services To You?			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decide skills needed 	N/A	You with help from the FMS	You with help from FMS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decide wages and benefits 	N/A	You and FMS	You with help from FMS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interviews applicants 	N/A	You	You
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verifies worker's eligibility for employment qualifications 	N/A	You and FMS	You and FMS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decides who to hire people that work for you 	N/A	You and FMS	You with help from FMS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arranges for needed background checks as described in Self-Determination Service Provider Background Checks directive 	N/A	FMS and the worker you want to hire	FMS and the worker you want to hire
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verifies provider passes background check 	N/A	FMS	FMS

	Type of FMS		
Tasks	Bill Payer	Co-Employer	Sole Employer
Who is the employer?	The business/vendor providing the item/service	You and FMS	You
Supervision and Timesheet Approval			
• Schedules the worker	N/A	You	You
• Supervises the work	N/A	You	You
• Approves timesheets	N/A	You	You
Worker Pay and Taxes			
• Pays the worker	N/A	FMS	FMS
• Pays required government taxes	N/A	FMS	FMS
• Obtains tax reporting number	N/A	FMS	You
• Files all tax reporting	N/A	FMS	FMS
Insurance and Compliance			
• Obtains Liability Insurance	N/A	FMS	You
• Obtains Worker's Compensation Insurance	N/A	FMS	You
• Ensures compliance with employment laws	N/A	You and FMS	You and FMS
• Verifies services are HCBS compliant with documentation from the RC prior to payment	N/A	FMS	FMS
Manages Budget			
• Makes sure participant has funds for the entire year.	You and FMS	You and FMS	You and FMS
• Provides monthly spending report to participant and service coordinator	FMS	FMS	FMS

The regional center can provide additional information about the kinds of FMS providers. A list of FMS providers is available on the [FMS Contact List](#) webpage. Additionally, your regional center can help you locate FMS providers. The participant and their family should consider speaking with more than one FMS about their services.

The cost for FMS services is negotiated between the participant and the FMS provider, but may not exceed the [maximum rates](#) posted on the Department of Developmental Services' website. The costs for these services are paid from the participant's individual budget; however, the individual budget cannot be increased to cover the cost of the FMS.

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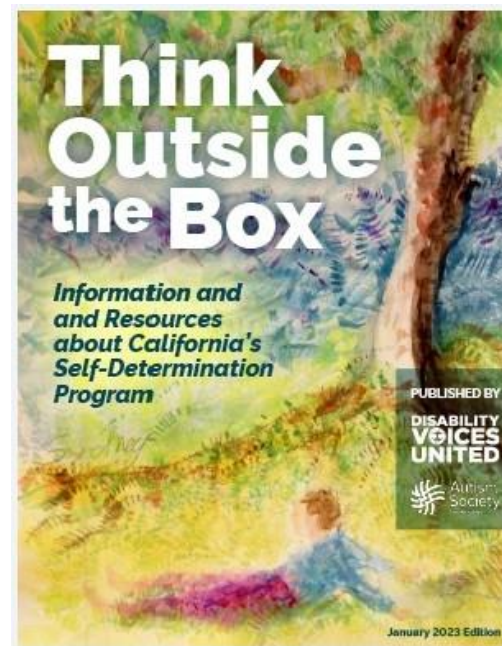
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