

Understanding the HCBS Final Rule

What is the HCBS Final Rule?

The federal government helps pay for most of the services regional centers provide to individuals with disabilities.



In 2014 the federal government put out the Final Rule for Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) programs for services it pays for.



Service providers must meet the Final Rule by March 17, 2023 to keep getting federal funding.

Two Main Parts

Plans About the Person

- Service plans include all supports and help needed based on the individual's choices and goals.



Homes and Programs

- People should receive services in the community and not in places with only people with disabilities.
- People receiving services have the right to make their own choices about how, where, and with whom they spend their time.



Services in the Community

Services include:

- Day programs and work programs;
- Homes paid for by regional centers; and,
- Respite care.

Everyone who receives or provides services may be affected by the Final Rule.

Click [here](#) to see California's plan to meet the HCBS Final Rule.



Meeting the Final Rule

Service providers have to follow the HCBS Final Rule.

Service providers will:

- Protect your rights;
- Make sure services take place in the community with people that don't have disabilities;
- Help you with ways to participate in your community;
- Make sure the focus is on what your goals are; and,

The Final Rule says homes for people with disabilities must also:

- Give choices;
- Have privacy;
- Keep people from being bullied;
- Help people control their own schedules and activities; and,
- Provide food at any time.



California is Getting Ready

- Service providers had to let the State know if their services meet the Final Rule.
- The State visited some providers to make sure they meet the Final Rule.
- People receiving services are being asked about providers and programs.
- The State is working with providers to change services that don't meet the Final Rule.