Intake: Starting Your Regional Center Journey for Lanterman Act Services











What is the Lanterman Act?

The Lanterman Act promises to support people with developmental disabilities.

What is intake?

Intake is the way regional centers determine who is eligible to receive regional center services.



Who is eligible for Lanterman Act services?

The developmental disability must have happened before age 18, and has to affect at least three "major life areas" (like self-care, learning, or mobility).

Developmental disabilities are:

- 1) Intellectual Disability;
- 2) Autism;
- 3) Cerebral Palsy;
- 4) Epilepsy; or,
- 5) A condition similar to Intellectual
 Disability or that requires similar services

3- and 4-year-olds with challenges in two life areas but without a diagnosed developmental disability may qualify for services under Provisional Eligibility until they turn 5.

What Should I Expect?











Referral

A doctor, teacher, parent, someone else concerned about a person, or the person themself makes a referral to the regional center.



Appointment

An intake appointment is scheduled with the family to talk about the concerns.



Evaluation 3

The regional center reviews records, asks the person and people who know them questions, and performs assessments. A decision regarding eligibility is made within 120 days of the initial appointment.



If found eligible, the service coordinator helps develop a plan called the "Individual Program Plan" (IPP) to identify services needed.



If not found eligible, the individual and/or family receives information about how to appeal the decision and other places that may be able to help the person.

The person may reapply for services if there is new information that the person had a developmental disability before the age of 18.

