



Developmental Disability Questionnaire

Please use this form to determine if a referral to Alta California Regional Center (ACRC) would be appropriate. Common traits of ACRC clients include:

- Trouble communicating at an age-appropriate level, and difficulty understanding directions or the consequences of situations.
- History of special education services (especially for Mental Retardation/Intellectual Disability or Autism).
- Trouble obtaining and maintaining employment, and requiring assistance of others to manage finances, appointments, and paperwork/contracts.

1) Did you ever receive special education services in school?

- If so, for what?

2) Did you graduate from high school with a certificate of completion rather than a diploma?

3) Has anyone ever told you that you have:

- Mental Retardation or an Intellectual Disability?
- Autism?
- Cerebral Palsy?
- Epilepsy?

4) Have you ever received Developmental Disability services?

5) Do you get any kind of social security check? (SSI, SSDI)

- If so, for what?

Observation Questions: (To be completed by evaluator)

1) Did this person's vocabulary seem limited?

2) Did this person have difficulty expressing him/herself?

3) Did this person experience difficulty understanding the questions asked?

*Individuals who are eligible for ACRC services often respond "YES" to most of these questions. If a referral to ACRC appears appropriate, please contact the Intake Department at 916-978-6317.



Brief Description of Developmental Disabilities

The conditions described below must have been present prior to the age of 18 years, likely to continue indefinitely, and be substantially impairing to the individual. Substantial impairments related solely to psychiatric disorders, learning disabilities, or other physical impairments are not considered to be a developmental disability.

- ***Mental Retardation / Intellectual Disability:***
 - Intelligence that is significantly below average, accompanied by impaired adaptive skills.
 - Most people require special help to cope with various life activities due to lack of understanding (Ex: completing paperwork, applications, and contracts, maintaining bills and finances, completing domestic activities, health & safety, etc.)
 - Often have history of receiving special education services in school for Intellectual Disability/Mental Retardation.
 - Placement in a Special Day Class is common, as well as receiving a Certificate of Completion rather than a High School Diploma.
- ***Autistic Disorder:***
 - History of markedly impaired social skills (Ex: poor eye contact, limited use of gestures, trouble starting and maintaining friendships, lack of reciprocity).
 - Poorly developed communication skills (Ex: history of early speech and language delay, difficulty starting and maintaining conversations, repetitive speech).
 - Presence of repetitive and restricted behaviors (Ex: preoccupation with certain interests, rigid routines and rituals, repetitive motor mannerisms).
- ***Epilepsy:***
 - Epilepsy is a neurological condition in which a person has a tendency to have recurring seizures.
 - To be considered a developmental disability, seizures must be significant and uncontrollable, even when appropriately medicated.
- ***Cerebral Palsy:***
 - Cerebral Palsy is a neurological disorder that affects motor ability.
 - To be a developmental disability, CP must significantly impact motor ability (Ex: impairs walking, talking, swallowing, and self-care abilities).
- ACRC also serves individuals with a condition closely related to Mental Retardation/Intellectual Disability, or requiring treatment similar to that required by those with MR/ID.