

July 30, 2026

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS, FAMILY RESOURCE
CENTERS, AND REGIONAL CENTER PARTNERS

FROM: MARICRIS ACON, Deputy Director
Department of Developmental Services

SUBJECT: FY 2025-26 FAMILY OUTCOMES SURVEY

Every year, the Department of Developmental Services (Department) invites a randomly selected group of thousands of families who are currently participating in or have previously participated in the Early Start Program to take part in the Family Outcomes Survey (FOS). The Department will be sending the annual survey to those families on August 5, 2026. Families will have the option to complete a paper-based survey, or an online survey through a website. In addition to a paper or online survey, a QR code will be provided so families can access the survey on their smartphones. The letter and paper survey are in English and Spanish. The online and QR code-linked survey is available in simplified and traditional Chinese, English, Farsi, Hmong, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.

What You Need to Know

Parents and caregivers may reach out to you with questions about why they have received a letter about the Family Outcomes Survey from the Department. Please let them know their feedback from the survey is used to create the best experience possible for families participating in the Early Start program. Please encourage them to complete the survey on or before **October 30, 2026**. The survey asks for some information about their family, including their child's birth date. Please reassure families that their responses are kept anonymous and only are used after combining their responses with other families' responses.

How You Can Help

- Please consider posting the attached announcement to your website to encourage families to complete the survey.
- Support families in the completion of the Family Outcomes Survey, either electronically or using the paper copy delivered to them in the mail.

For additional information, please contact the Early Childhood and Youth Services Division (ECYS), Data Research and Reporting Section, at (916) 654-3706, or via email at earlystart@dds.ca.gov.

Attachment