

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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February 3, 2021

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: GUIDANCE REGARDING WAIVER OF SELF-DETERMINATION
PROGRAM BUDGET RESTRICTIONS FOR PAYMENTS FOR FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT SERVICES

The Department of Developmental Services' [November 19, 2020 Directive](#) waives the requirement that the cost of financial management services (FMS) is paid by participants in the Self-Determination Program (SDP) from his or her budget.

Starting October 1, 2020, an SDP participant has the flexibility and may choose to repurpose funds for FMS fees for different and/or additional services during the COVID-19 State of Emergency. If a participant chooses to utilize the funds allocated for FMS fees for different and/or additional services as a result of COVID-19, the regional center should increase the budget based on the number of months FMS fees will be repurposed. The spending plan should also be adjusted to reflect where the repurposed FMS fees will be used. Upon expiration of the Directive, adjustments may be needed in the spending plan to account for FMS fees no longer being repurposed.

Consumers, family members or providers should contact their local regional center with any questions regarding the Directive and this Guidance. Questions from regional centers should be directed to sdp@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

MARICRIS ACON
Deputy Director
Federal Programs Division

cc: Regional Center Board Presidents
Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
Regional Center Community Services Directors
Association of Regional Center Agencies
State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Nancy Bargmann, DDS
Brian Winfield, DDS

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