

**Kern Regional Center**  
**Purchase of Services Guidelines**  
**DAY CARE/DEPENDENT CARE**  
**Vendored Under Service Code 851**

**Definition:** Day care services mean services that provide appropriate non-medical care and supervision, while parent is engaged in employment outside of the home and/or educational activities leading to employment, to ensure the consumer's safety in the absence of family members. Day care/Dependent care services will attend to the consumer's basic self-help needs and other activities of daily living including interaction, socialization and continuation of usual routines, which would ordinarily be performed by the family member. Day care services can be provided by a licensed family day care agency, a licensed childcare center, preschool, or FMS if eligible.

Working parents face many challenges as they strive to balance competing priorities and responsibilities. One issue may be securing day care for children not yet old enough to attend school (0-5) and after school day care for school age children (6-17) who require supervision. Locating a program with trained and reliable caregivers, safe environments, stimulating activities, peer groups for social interactions, convenience for the home/work/home commute and availability is a goal for many families.

For parents of children with a developmental disability, the arranging for such care may pose additional challenges such as finding persons and community programs to accept their children and who are experienced with the specialized care, which is necessary. Families may also face a unique issue of securing supervision for an adolescent son/daughter (age 13-17) after a school program.

The cost of supervision over and above what a family would pay for a non-disabled child of a certain age may be funded by the Regional Center pursuant to Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Act, Section 4659, 4646.4 (a)(4) and 4685 (c) (6). Section 4685 (c) (6) states: "... the regional center may pay only the cost of day care services that exceeds the cost of providing day care service to a child without disabilities. The regional center may pay in excess of this amount when a family can demonstrate a financial need..." In reviewing requests to fund day care, the responsibility of the day care provider to meet the needs of the client under the ADA and other laws, the cost effectiveness of the proposed day care and the financial means of the parent(s).

**KRC may assist with a portion of the cost of day care when the following criteria are met:**

- 1) The parent of a single-parent household or both parents of a two-parent household are engaged in full time employment or vocational training and providing such support will enable the continuation of employment/training. *(Documentation to verify employment and hours of employment must be provided annually for parents who are employed full time and semi-annually for parent(s) enrolled in vocational training or continuation of education that includes enrollment of classes and schedule along with proof of attendance.*

- 2) The child's needs require specialized care which is in excess of that provided to a nondisabled children of the same age (such as medical equipment and care which require specialized training, behavior such as self-abuse, assault, aggression, significant assistance with self-help task, supervision when older than 13 years of age)
  
- 3) Such care is not available to the family through usual resources found in communities at usual cost (such as childcare centers, neighborhood school, churches, YMCA, etc. whose fees are customary for the area and service provided.) *Documentation from generic resource indicating they are unable to serve the child is required annually.*

For older children (ages 13-17), resources that may be available include generic financial support of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) **must** be explored and pursued to address the need for supervision before dependent care services is requested from Kern Regional Center.

Families will be subjected for Family Cost Participation Program if they are utilizing KRC funded day care services.

Approved this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2019  
KRC Board of Directors