



North Los Angeles County Regional Center

Social Recreation, Camp and Non-Medical Therapies Request for Vendorization (RFV)

PROJECT #1: Socialization Training Program (028)

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: Ongoing until resource need declines

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Community Services Department of the North Los Angeles County Regional Center (NLACRC) is releasing this Request for Vendorization (RFV) to seek qualified and experienced Social Skills Trainers to support children between 3 - 18 years of age, or up to 22 if still in high school, who have been found eligible for regional center services to achieve an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) or an Individual Program Plan (IPP) objective.

INDIVIDUALS TO BE SERVED

Social Skills Training is provided for school-age (ages 3 – 18, or 22 if still in high school) developmentally disabled individuals and their parent(s). Social Skills Training (also called social-interpersonal skills) is provided to individuals that already have basic communication skills but need help establishing better social relationships in the community (e.g., school, work).

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Applicants should design a program that is equipped to meet the specialized needs of individuals whose diagnoses are likely to include the following:

- Mild to moderate levels of cognitive deficit
- Autism and Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Seizure Disorders
- Mental Illness/Psychiatric Diagnosis
- Need for assistance with some or all aspects of social engagement in the community.
- Non-ambulatory with mild to severe mobility challenges.

PROPOSED MODELS OF SERVICE

Social Skills Trainers provide socialization opportunities for school-age developmentally disabled persons. At a minimum, the following should be provided:

- Adaptive recreation/socialization programs
- Integration opportunities through the program's independent living skills activities
- Access to public recreation and leisure facilities
- Activities that will enhance and develop meaningful interpersonal relationships
- Excluded programs that the Department of Education is required to fund.

Social Skills Training requirements include:

- Individual practices skills with peers in the presence of parents or staff working with the individual.
- At least half of the hours provided are used to practice the skills in the community.
- Parents are trained to help their child practice the skills in the community.
- Parents are expected to participate in services 100% of the time and are an integral part of the treatment plan team (i.e., a "teach the teacher" model).



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Learning social skills requires practicing the skills across different settings and individuals. Social skills groups might be an appropriate format to address social skills deficits, if a portion of the hours are implemented to practice the skills in the community. Individuals may be considered for a new cycle of social skills training if they experience a significant change in their social context. Significant changes include puberty, going to high school, and getting a job as the individual might need to develop new skills to cope with these particular changing social environments. Services are approved for up to 36 hours over a 6-month period (up to 1.5 hours per week). Social skills assessment reports must include baseline data from direct observation, the use of commercially available checklists, and clear and measurable goals for the individuals and their parents.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPLICANTS

Social Skills Trainers must have skills and experience in implementing and creating social skills programs and possess a Master's degree and/or be a licensed clinician/professional.

RATE OF REIMBURSEMENT

This service is funded at a Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Statewide Median Rate. Currently, the rate effective 2024 is \$29.83 per hour, per individual; \$37.00 per hour for a group rate.

Please note that per Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) 4650.10 all generic resources must be explored in the individual's community prior to requesting regional center funding.

Note: This project **DOES NOT** have startup funds associated. Applicants are responsible for 100% of the initial start-up costs and continued maintenance of the business. Additionally, pursuant to Title 17 section 54322, (d) (10) Regional Centers **cannot guarantee referrals**.