



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

REGIONAL CENTER

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July 23, 2012

**To: All Supported Living Service Providers serving NLACRC consumers
(Service Code 073, 894, and 896)**

**RE: Effective July 1, 2012, Statutory Requirement to Utilize SLS
Standardized Assessment Questionnaire during IPP meetings,
Welfare & Institutions Code, Section 4689(p)**

The purpose of this letter is to notify all supported living service providers of a change in statute that went into effect on July 1, 2012. The statutory requirement which formerly required that an independent assessment be performed for consumers currently receiving or initially entering supported living who have supported living costs in excess of 125% of the annual statewide average cost of supported living services has been eliminated from statute. Welfare & Institutions Code (WIC) section 4689(p) was amended and statute now requires that the Individual Program Plan (IPP) team complete a standardized assessment questionnaire at the time of development, review, or modification of a consumer's IPP. The questionnaire must be used during IPP meetings, in addition to the service provider's assessment, to assist in determining whether the services provided or recommended are necessary and sufficient and that the most cost-effective methods of supported living services are utilized. Furthermore, the statute requires that the IPP team utilize the standardized assessment questionnaire developed by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS).

NLACRC requests that you please update your processes and procedures to ensure compliance with the statute.

While this correspondence provides you a summary of the changes in statute, a copy of both Section 4689 of the WIC and the standardized assessment questionnaire is enclosed for your review to ensure compliance with this change in statute. Information regarding the statutory changes impacting supported living services may be found on DDS's website at www.dds.ca.gov/sls.

If you have questions about this change in statute, please contact either Cherylle Mallinson, Community Services Manager, by email at cmallinson@nlacrc.org, or your NLACRC service coordinator.

Welfare & Institutions Code section 4689 (p)(1)

To ensure that consumers in or entering into supported living arrangements receive the appropriate amount and type of supports to meet the person's choice and needs as determined by the IPP team, and that generic resources are utilized to the fullest extent possible, the IPP team shall complete a standardized assessment questionnaire at the time of development, review, or modification of a consumer's IPP. The questionnaire shall be used during the individual program plan meetings, in addition to the provider's assessment, to assist in determining whether the services provided or recommended are necessary and sufficient and that the most cost-effective methods of supported living services are utilized. With input from stakeholders, including regional centers, the department shall develop and post the questionnaire on its Internet Web site, and, by June 30, 2012, shall provide it to the regional centers.

Supported Living Services Standardized Assessment Questionnaire

Per WIC § 4689(p)(1), this questionnaire is designed to ensure that individuals in or entering supported living arrangements receive the appropriate amount and type of supports to meet the person’s choice and needs as determined by the IPP team.

The IPP team is to complete the questionnaire at the time of development, review, or modification of an individual’s IPP. The questionnaire, in conjunction with the service provider’s comprehensive assessment, will assist the team in determining if the services recommended or provided are necessary, that generic resources are utilized to the fullest extent possible, and the most cost effective methods of service provision are utilized. If this process results in a reduction of services, the regional center is to inform the individual of the reason for the reduction and provide the individual a written notice of fair hearing rights pursuant to WIC § 4701.

Name: _____

UCI: _____

Service Coordinator: _____

Date: _____

Support Questions	Answers	Comments
1. Are medical considerations/supports necessary and sufficient?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
2. Are considerations/supports for medications or treatments necessary and sufficient?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
3. Are behavioral considerations/supports necessary and sufficient?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
4. Does the individual require the personal care, transfers, toileting, and/or feeding as detailed in the support plan?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
5. Are safety and emergency procedures necessary and sufficient?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
6. Have all the possible support alternatives been considered (e.g. med. planners, telephone check-in systems, self-checklist programs, etc.)?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
7. Are IHSS hours maximized?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
8. Are generic services/supports maximized?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
9. Are natural supports maximized and are there sufficient opportunities to maintain and expand them (e.g. Circle of Support, friends, family, etc.)?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	

Support Questions	Answers	Comments
10. Is technology maximized (e.g. Lifeline, electric door openers, speaker phones, etc.)?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
11. Are financial resources adequate to meet the individual's needs (e.g. rent, utilities, food, etc.)?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
12. Are considerations/supports for financial management necessary and sufficient?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
13. Has shared housing been considered? If "no", why not?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
14. If individual lives with others, are supports shared? If "no", why not?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
15. Does the individual assist or supervise in household duties to the fullest extent possible?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
16. Does the individual assist or supervise in meal planning, preparation and cleanup to the fullest extent possible?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
17. Does the individual have opportunities to increase skills and abilities?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
18. Can the individual use public transportation independently? If "yes", do they? If "no", why not?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
19. Does the individual spend any time without support staff? If "no", why not?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
20. Prior to receiving SLS, did the individual spend time alone in his/her home or community?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
21. Have there been any attempts to fade SLS support in the last year?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
22. Is there a systematic plan in place to fade SLS support?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
23. Does the individual have overnight support? If "yes", is there an expectation for overnight support to fade? If support is not expected to fade, why not?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	

Summary of Recommendations: