



The Federal Review of the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD)

Table of Contents

- ☀ What is the DD Act?
- ☀ What is the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD)?
- ☀ What is the State Council's job?
- ☀ What did AIDD find when it reviewed California?
- ☀ What does the Council need to do?
- ☀ What kinds of changes does the State Council have to make?
- ☀ What will happen at the local level?
- ☀ Will these changes affect my right to get services under the Lanterman Act?
- ☀ Do you want more information?

What is the DD Act?

The DD Act¹ is a federal law that supports people with developmental disabilities' rights. The DD Act also funds the State Council.

What is the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities?

The Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) is the federal agency that makes sure the DD Act is put into action. AIDD supports a Council in every state and territory.

AIDD makes sure that the Councils follow federal rules. AIDD visits Councils to review its work. The review is called a Monitoring and Technical Assistance Review System (MTARS).

What is the State Council's job?

The California State Council is sometimes called the State Council on Developmental Disabilities or SCDD. The State Council gets DD Act funds to support people with developmental disabilities and their families. Some ways the State Council helps are:

- ☀ Improve the quality of life for people with disabilities.
- ☀ Advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to help design new community services and supports.

¹ The full name of the DD Act is the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000.

- ☀ Make sure that individuals and their families can get community services and supports.
- ☀ Develop a State Plan. The Plan must say how the State Council will improve services for individuals with developmental disabilities. The Council must take action to carry out the Plan.

To look at California's State Plan, [click here](#).

- ☀ Report the Council's work to AIDD.
- ☀ Prepare a budget. The budget puts the Plan into action. The budget must follow state and federal rules.
- ☀ Give grants to carry out the State Plan. The Council must make sure the funds are spent well.

What did AIDD find when it reviewed California?

AIDD reviewed the Council in January 2013. AIDD said that the Council did not follow all the federal rules. The rules the Council did not follow are:

- **Budget:**
 - State law cannot tell the Council how much money to give the Area Boards.
 - The Council must do a better job creating its budget.
 - The Council must do a better job showing how it spends its budget.
 - The SCDD can only spend its funds on costs the federal government allows.
- **Hiring Staff**
 - The Governor cannot hire any State Council staff.
 - The State Council Director must hire the Directors of the Area Boards.
- **Membership**
 - Too many Council member positions are not filled on time.
 - Members of the Council cannot be Area Board representatives.
- **State Council Work**
 - The State Council must decide what work the Area Boards can do.
 - The State Council must take more responsibility for the Area Board's work.
 - There is too much overlap between Disability Rights California and the Area Boards.

For additional information regarding this agenda, please contact Robin Maitino,
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What does the Council have to do?

The Council must give AIDD a Corrective Action Plan (CAP). The CAP is due on February 14, 2014.

The CAP must say how the State Council will fix the problems.

What kinds of changes does the State Council have to make?

- The State Council will have to do a better job of watching and using its funds.
- Part of the Lanterman Act that doesn't agree with the DD Act has to change. If the Lanterman Act doesn't change, California will not get DD Act funding.

What will happen at the local level?

- Area Board offices will remain in the community.
- The State Council and the Area Boards will have a closer relationship.
- Area Board offices will be renamed State Council Regional Offices.

Will these changes affect my right to get services under the Lanterman Act?

No. The parts of the Lanterman Act about regional centers and services will not change.

Do you want more information?

The State Council has created an MTARS Committee. The MTARS Committee will advise the Council on making changes. The changes will make sure that we follow federal rules.

You can find more information about the MTARS on the State Council's [web site](#).

You may also contact Roberta Newton, Interim Executive Director at (916) 322-8481 or (866) 802-0514.

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