

**REGIONAL CENTER OF THE EAST BAY
PURCHASE OF SERVICE POLICY #3425**

Date Revised: 10/2010

TRANSPORTATION

GENERAL PHILOSOPHY

The ability to travel safely is a necessity to enabling consumers to have full access to services, programs and the community as a whole. Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB) shall first and foremost assist consumers to achieve the greatest self-sufficiency possible in order to participate in activities within their community. Such self-sufficiency generally complies with RCEB's requirement that transportation shall be cost effective and emphasize use of generic resources. RCEB supports, where possible, the use of the public transit system, but recognizes that this mode of transportation may not always be accessible to its consumers and that private bus companies under contract with RCEB may be the only means available to many consumers.

SERVICE DEFINITION

RCEB supports the use of public transportation through mobility training (see separate policy) and travel reimbursement when the Planning Team identifies the need. RCEB contracts with private bus companies to transport consumers who cannot otherwise use public transportation and where there are no other responsible parties. Others responsible for transportation include, public schools for school age children, residential care providers for health care appointments and social/recreational events, or programs where transportation is part of the agreement or the responsibility of the Department of Rehabilitation. Transportation is normally the responsibility of families where minor children are living at home, unless the Planning Team identifies a service need that can only be accessed by RCEB providing the appropriate support.

Note: Parents of infants and toddlers are expected to provide transportation for their children to daily activities.

BOARD POLICY

RCEB will fund transportation for a consumer to access services that will meet the goals of the Individual Program Plan when the Planning Team has made the assessment that the consumer is not able to use public transportation, mobility training is not appropriate, and no other means of transportation is available. RCEB Board supports, where possible, that the destination/program chosen should be the closest service to the consumer's home that meets the consumer's needs outlined in the Individual Program Plan. RCEB will "fund transportation, when required, from the consumer's residence to the lowest-cost vendor that provides the service that meets the consumer's needs, as set forth in the consumer's IPP or IFSP. For the purposes of this subdivision, the cost of a vendor shall be determined by combining the vendor's program costs and the costs to transport a consumer from the consumer's residence to the vendor."(W&I code 4648.35(c))

RCEB will "fund transportation for a minor child living in the family residence, only if the family of the child provides sufficient written documentation to the regional center to demonstrate that it is unable to provide transportation for the child."(W&I Code 4648.35(d))

Contract transportation shall be used as a last resort when no other options are available.

PROCEDURE

The case manager, as part of the Planning Team, will assess the need and type of transportation necessary to meet the consumer's service needs. RCEB will "fund the least expensive transportation modality that meets the consumer's needs, as set forth in the IPP or IFSP." (W&I Code 4648.35(b)) Trips outside of regular program hours or days, trips that may be longer than an hour and a half each way, or trips that may involve a one-passenger route, should be discussed with RCEB's transportation department to verify availability prior to commitment.

AUTHORITY

California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4512 (b) and 4648.35 For Part C CFR Regulations for Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities 303.12 (15), Title 14 California Early Intervention Services Act.