



In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program

The IHSS Program will help pay for services provided to a client to help them remain safely in their home. To be eligible, must be over 65 years of age, or disabled, or blind. Disabled children are also potentially eligible for IHSS. IHSS is considered an alternative to out-of-home care, such as nursing homes or board and care facilities.

The types of services which can be authorized through IHSS are housecleaning, meal preparation, laundry, grocery shopping, personal care services (such as bowel and bladder care, bathing, grooming and paramedical services), accompaniment to medical appointments, and protective supervision for the mentally impaired.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ALL IHSS APPLICANTS AND RECIPIENTS:

- Must physically reside in the United States.
- Must be a California resident.
- Must have a Medi-Cal eligibility determination.
- Must live at home or an abode of the clients own choosing (acute care hospital, long-term care facilities, and licensed community care facilities are not considered "own home").
- Must submit a completed Health Care Certification form.

WHERE TO GET HELP:

To apply for IHSS, Call the San Diego County Aging & Disability Resource Connection (ADRC).

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

- A county social worker will interview the client at their home to determine eligibility and need for IHSS. Based on their ability to safely perform certain tasks, the social worker will assess the types of services needed and the number of hours the county will authorize for each of these services. This assessment will include information given by the client and, if appropriate, family, friends, physician or other licensed health care professional.
- A completed Health Care Certification (SOC 873) must be received by the county prior to authorization of services.
- The client will be notified if IHSS has been approved or denied. If denied, notification of the reason for the denial will be provided. If approved, notification of the services and the number of hours per month which have been authorized.
- If IHSS hours are approved, the client must hire someone (their individual provider) to perform the authorized services. The client is considered the provider's employer and, therefore, it is their responsibility to hire, train, supervise, and fire this individual.
- Public Authority has a Registry of IHSS workers for clients unable to identify their own IHSS worker.

San Diego County Aging & Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)
1-800-510-2020