

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

1600 NINTH STREET, Room 240, MS 2-13
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TTY (916) 654-2054 (For the Hearing Impaired)
(916) 654-1897



June 22, 2020

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVE 01-062220: CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM AND FAMILY HOME AGENCIES

Individuals providing services to participants in the Self-Determination Program (SDP), as specified in Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code section 4685.8(w), and Family Home Agency (FHA) applicants and adults providing services or residing in FHA homes, as specified in W&I Code section 4689.2, are required to obtain fingerprint-based criminal background checks.

The Department of Developmental Services recognizes that due to the COVID-19 crisis, there is a shortage of available fingerprinting services, which impacts the ability of individuals to complete the required criminal background checks. Therefore, pursuant to Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-68-20 issued on June 5, 2020, to the extent W&I Code sections 4685.8(w) and 4689.2 require use of an individual's fingerprints to obtain a criminal background check or clearance, the fingerprinting requirement is suspended through July 31, 2020. As stated in Executive Order N-68-20, the California Department of Justice is excused from requiring fingerprints to conduct criminal background checks through July 31, 2020. While submission of fingerprints is not required for individuals specified in W&I Code sections 4685.8(w) and 4689.2 through July 31, 2020, a criminal background clearance is required. Unless an intervening Executive Order is issued, individuals are required to obtain criminal background checks utilizing fingerprints beginning August 1, 2020.

Applicants are encouraged to seek fingerprint-based background checks where access to Live Scan is currently available to them. If Live Scan is not available and a background check is needed before August 1, 2020, enclosed is the California Department of Justice Form BCIA 9010-COVID-19 that must be completed by any person seeking to obtain a name-based criminal background check for purposes of W&I Code sections 4685.8(w) and 4689.2.

“Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices”

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Consumers, family members or providers should contact their local regional center with any questions regarding this Directive. Questions from regional centers regarding SDP should be directed to Maricris Acon at (916) 654-2250 or maricris.acon@dds.ca.gov, and questions regarding FHA should be directed to Rose Samaniego at (916) 516-0018 or rose.samaniego@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

NANCY BARGMANN
Director

Enclosure

cc: Regional Center Board Presidents
Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
Regional Center Community Services Directors
Association of Regional Center Agencies