



# YOUR APPEAL RIGHTS

In the Lanterman Act

## Notice of Action (NOA)

The regional center must send you a NOA when the regional center makes a decision without your written agreement.

### The NOA Must Tell You



- The regional center's decision.
- The date the decision will happen.
- The reason for the decision.
- The facts and law that support the decision.

The NOA must be in plain language and in your preferred language.

## When You Will Get A NOA

**30**  
Days

**Before the Regional Center**  
Stops or changes your services or ends your eligibility for regional center services.

**5**  
Days

**After the Regional Center**  
Denies a service you want or decides you are not eligible to become a regional center consumer.

## You Can Appeal

If you and the regional center don't agree you can appeal the decision. There are three parts to the appeal process.

1. Informal Meeting
2. Mediation
3. Hearing

You choose the parts of the appeal process you want to use.

## You Have Rights During An Appeal



To be provided with an interpreter



To access your regional center records



To have help during an appeal



To request a different mediator or hearing officer



The regional center can't use an attorney unless you do

## Your Rights at the Hearing



To provide written documents as evidence



To have witnesses testify



To ask the regional center's witnesses questions

## How To Appeal

Send your appeal to the Department of Developmental Services.

## When To Appeal

Your appeal must be filed by the deadlines.



### To Keep Current Services

File **30 days** after you got a Notice of Action and before the date it says services end.



### All Other Appeals

File within **60 days** of getting a Notice of Action.

## Where To Get Help

**The Ombudsperson Office**  
(877) 658-9731  
Ombudsperson@dds.ca.gov

**Client's Rights Advocate**  
Northern California  
(800) 390-7032

Southern California  
(866) 833-6712

**Family Resource Center**  
<https://frcnca.org/get-connected/>



Follow the QR Code For More Information