

**REGIONAL CENTER OF THE EAST BAY
PURCHASE OF SERVICE POLICY # 3406
DATE APPROVED: 10/08**

FAMILY TRAINING SERVICES

Philosophy:

Regional Center of the East Bay is committed to providing parents with supports through a range of services. In an effort to provide parents with opportunities to enhance their knowledge and understanding of their sons'/daughters' developmental disability, Regional Center of the East Bay may provide funding for parent participation in conference/seminar training that is specific to their sons'/daughters' developmental disability.

As a part of this ongoing commitment to family training and education, Regional Center of the East Bay encourages families to share information received at a conference with his/her community support system or other Regional Center families.

Service Definition:

Family training services are those services which offer parents the opportunity to acquire new information which will help them better understand their sons'/daughters' special needs, enhance their understanding of their sons'/daughters' development and maintain their sons/daughters in the most natural and least restrictive environment, their family home. These services are limited to conferences and seminars that are offered within the State of California and sponsored by an organization that is recognized within the area of developmental disability services and presented by qualified personnel.

Board Policy:

The funding of family training services, which allows the family to acquire information that will help them provide better service for their son/daughter who has a developmental disability shall be approved under the following criteria:

- The proposed conference/seminar must have a direct relationship to the consumer's developmental disability.
- All generic funding and/or community resources available to provide similar information must be exhausted prior to RCEB's consideration and funding of this service request. The RCEB Case manager will assist the family in seeking other sources of support.
- To allow more families the opportunity to benefit from attending conferences/seminars, the funding of this service shall be limited to one conference/seminar per fiscal year. Determination of the number of appropriate family members eligible to attend will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Additional conference/seminar may be considered on an exception basis.

- RCEB funding shall only be for conference registration fees. Reimbursement for lodging, transportation costs, and meals shall not be funded. Individual circumstances would be taken into account and considered on an exceptions basis to this portion of the policy.

Procedure:

A family member may request this service by contacting their Regional Center Case Manager at least 30 days in advance of conference/seminar date to allow time to process the service request and to take advantage of registration rates and/or other generic supports that may be available. The Interdisciplinary Team will determine funding for services once the family member meets the criteria set forth in this policy. RCEB shall, whenever possible, pay the conference organizers directly for registration fees. Reimbursement for payment to other than the conference organizers shall be made on an exception basis.

Authority:

Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 4685 (b)(c)(1)