



Social Recreational, Camping, Educational and Non-Medical Therapy Services

DEFINITION:

Social Recreational, Camping, Educational and Non-Medical Therapy Services refer to programs or activities that promote community integration and self-advocacy through recreation and leisure pursuits.

These services may include, but are not limited to, activities such as swimming, gymnastics, sports, clubs, dance lessons, tutoring services, martial arts, creative arts, music therapy, art therapy, equestrian therapy, day and overnight camps or other community integration activities.

Educational Services refer to those services typically provided by school districts for school-aged individuals aged 17 and under.

PHILOSOPHY:

Harbor Regional Center (Harbor) recognizes that social recreational, camping and educational/non-medical therapy activities are important for inclusion, skill development and quality of life for individuals of all ages.

For children, participating in these activities is primarily a parental responsibility. However, when a child's disability limits access to typical community programs and those programs cannot meet the child's needs, Harbor may help fund appropriate services that support social development and community participation.

POLICY:

Harbor may fund social recreational, camping, educational and non-medical therapy services when identified through the Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individual Program Plan (IPP) process, when such services promote inclusion, community participation and personal growth and only when the following criteria are met:

1. The individual is served by the regional center; and
2. When the individual is under the age of three (3), the child must be eligible under the Lanterman Act; and
3. The IFSP/IPP team identifies the service as necessary to achieve goals related to social, recreational or leisure development.
4. The service enhances the individual's participation in age-appropriate, inclusive community activities.
5. When social recreational, camping, educational and non-medical therapy opportunities are otherwise not available to the individual through typical social recreational community programs; and

6. When the individual/family has first made reasonable efforts to identify and use typical community social recreational programs, but said programs cannot meet the individual's needs; and
7. When frequency, duration and cost of service is reasonable in comparison to typically developing individuals; and
8. When the camping services and related travel expenses are delivered within the boundaries of the State of California; and
9. For educational services there is clear documentation presented by the family that a publicly funded developmental/educational program for a child is unavailable.

Each request will be evaluated individually, based on assessed need, preference and available generic or community resources. When the above criteria are met, services may be authorized in accordance with the following:

1. Services will not be authorized solely to meet childcare needs or replace services typically provided by public education systems for school-aged children.
2. Harbor shall not exchanged respite hours or any other authorized support for social recreation, camping or non-medical therapy services.
3. When the IFSP/IPP team determines that socialization, leisure, recreational, camping, educational services and non-medical therapy are needed outside of the criteria described above, an exception may be approved through an exception review with the Executive Director or their designee.

*Approved by the Harbor Developmental Disabilities Foundation Board of Trustees on
November 18, 2025*