



# Service Policy Manual

## Socialization Training Services (Infant through age 21)

Alta California Regional Center (ACRC) supports the promotion of social skill development when a school-aged individual's developmental disability interferes with appropriate social development. Socialization training services address the development in social and behavioral domains with the objective of enhancing age appropriate social functioning, as appropriate to the individual's potential. These services may be purchased for individuals through the age of 21.

ACRC will purchase socialization training services that are supported by evidence-based, peer-reviewed research. Socialization training services may be purchased for the consumer to participate in skill development programs that demonstrate and provide measurable improvement in socialization skills. Acquisition of skills is enhanced through:

- Optimizing the child's personal independence and social responsiveness
- Activities that will enhance and develop meaningful interpersonal relationships
- Providing outcomes that are defined, measured and used to ensure effective time-limited programming
- Exclusively focusing on a socialization curriculum
- Incorporating parental skill building to promote generalization

Participation in community activities and organizations is encouraged. ACRC may pay for short-term support or instruction related to specific, individualized objectives, to facilitate meaningful participation in those activities. The regional center must consider the family's responsibility for providing similar services to a minor child without disabilities. ACRC shall not pay for what is normally the parent's responsibility, but will pay for the support so that the child can participate.

ACRC shall not supplant the social, leisure and recreation skill development components of residential services and public school programs. These programs typically support the acquisition of age appropriate social skills in public settings.

The ACRC Executive Director may review and authorize an exception(s) if warranted by individual circumstances.