

Service Standard

Conferences/Workshops/Seminars

Participation in conferences, workshops and seminars is considered empowering and provides opportunity for people with developmental disabilities and/or their family members to develop skills and abilities in leadership and/or increase their knowledge of developmental disabilities and related resources.

The following apply to funding of conferences, workshops or seminars:

- A similar conference with similar information is not available in VMRC's catchment area.
- Participants requesting funding have exhausted all scholarships or generic sources available.
- Request from the attendee is received at least two weeks prior to the scheduled event.
- The service is noted as a need in the consumer's Individual Program Plan (IPP).
- For adults receiving VMRC services, funding may include lodging and/or transportation costs when authorized.
- Transportation, lodging, and meal costs are the responsibility of family members who are requesting in-person participation.
- Zoom participation is an option, when available.
- The conference, workshop or seminar must be in California for all in-person attendance.
- If the individual will be part of a panel or a keynote speaker at the event, the expectation is that the sponsor will fund the conference/workshop/seminar.
- The regional center may fund registration fees up to \$250 for one consumer or family member's attendance at one conference, workshop or seminar each fiscal year.
- The Planning Team determines that the following criteria are met:
 - The conference, workshop or seminar is presented by a recognized organization or individual.
 - If the person requesting participation is a family member, the conference, workshop or seminar will assist the family in understanding the special needs of their family member and enhancing the person's development.
 - If the person requesting participation is an adult consumer, the conference, workshop or seminar will assist the adult in meeting the goals on his/her IPP and/or will assist in the development of leadership/partnership skills.
 - The sponsor of the conference/workshop/seminar is a vendor of the regional center or the person attending is vendorized for reimbursement.