



Top Questions SCDD Received from Self-Advocates

What if I lose my job or I am told not to come to work because of the coronavirus?

- If you have a job coach, let them know that your employer has told you not to come to work.
- Contact Social Security and tell them you are not working. When you stop working and your income goes down, your SSI check should go up.
- Call your service coordinator at the regional center (or the Department of Rehabilitation). Tell them you have lost your job. If you think you will need other services, ask for a meeting with your service coordinator to talk about it.
- If you think you may have trouble paying your rent, buying food or paying for other bills because you have lost your job, there are people who can help you figure out what to do. If you get services like supported living or independent living, talk to the staff who assist you. Your regional center service coordinator can also help you. California Governor Newsom has put new rules in place that will help people keep their homes and protect them from having utilities like water, electricity and gas from being turned off.
- Call the Employment Development Department. They can help you apply for unemployment benefits. Call 800-300-5616.



What will happen to day programs and people who go to them?

- Day programs are not required to close right now. Some programs have decided to close. If you are not sure about your program, call them to find out if they are open or not.
- If your day program is open and you don't want to go, let them know you have chosen to stay home because of the coronavirus.
- If you choose to stay home, you will keep your place in the day program.
- The situation with the coronavirus changes every day. Day programs and transportation companies will contact you if they decide not to provide services. Be sure they have the right phone number to contact you.

What if I need more support or services?

- Call your regional center service coordinator and tell them you need more help. When things in your life change, the services you get should change.
- When you talk to your service coordinator, tell them what has changed in your life and the kind of help you need. Your service coordinator should help you figure out the kind of extra services that will help you.



Will I still get my SSI check if the Social Security office closes?

- Yes. You will still get your monthly SSI/SSA check.
- Social Security offices have closed for face-to-face contact, but they are still doing their work. If you have questions, call Social Security at 800-772-1213.

The COVID-19 situation is changing daily, and many answers are not known at this time. Please refer to official local, county, state, and federal websites for up-to-the-minute information.

- For community questions, call your local 2-1-1.
- For regional center questions, contact your service coordinator.
- If you have problems with a regional center, contact the Department of Developmental Services at (916) 651-6309 or Ddsc19@dds.ca.gov.
- For general information on COVID-19, visit the one-stop state website at www.covid19.ca.gov
- Or contact the State Council on Developmental Disabilities at (833) 818-9886 or council@scdd.ca.gov.