



WHAT IS AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE?

Support When You Need It Most

Sometimes family separation, health challenges, or other situations can leave a person without someone to help advocate for their needs. The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) can appoint an authorized representative, **for free**, to support a person with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD) in these situations.

What Does an Authorized Representative Do?

- ✓ Supports the person to speak up about their needs and choices
- ✓ Helps them participate in Individual Program Plan (IPP) meetings
- ✓ Assists in navigating services and supports
- ✓ Advocates for their rights during important decisions


The authorized representative stands **beside the person**, not in place of them. The person with IDD always has the right to accept or decline this help. Therefore, the authorized representative supports the decisions someone with an IDD makes and does not sign legal documents on their behalf.

Who Can Be an Authorized Representative?





The person can choose their representative. If no preference is shared, SCDD will first consider:

1. A parent, if the person with IDD is an adult
2. An involved family member, if the person with IDD is an adult
3. A volunteer who can be recommended to SCDD


Important to Know:

 Authorized representative appointments are for regional center advocacy only

How to Get Started:

-  Find someone who will be an authorized representative
-  Go to the [SCDD Authorized Representative Portal](https://scdd.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2bkVVKajYOTdyrl)
[https://scdd.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2bkVVKajYOTdyrl]
-  Request the appointment of an Authorized Representative
-  SCDD will review the request and contact you

Need More Information?

 Contact your [local SCDD Regional Office](https://scdd.ca.gov/contactus/)
[https://scdd.ca.gov/contactus/]