

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) PROGRAM NOTICE TO RECIPIENT OF HEALTH CARE CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

COUNTY OF: _____

(ADDRESSEE)

Notice Date: _____

IHSS Office Address: _____

IHSS Office Telephone Number: _____

Social Worker Name: _____

DUE BY: _____

To: In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Recipient

There has been a change in state law (Welfare and Institutions Code section 12309.1) that requires each person getting IHSS to provide a health care certification from a licensed health care professional (LHCP) to continue to get IHSS.

The certification must be completed by a LHCP, such as a physician (doctor), physician assistant, regional center clinician or clinician supervisor, occupational therapist, physical therapist, psychiatrist, psychologist, optometrist, ophthalmologist, public health nurse, etc.

The certification must state that you are not able to do some activities of daily living (ADLs) on your own and that without help to do these activities you would be at risk of placement in out-of-home care.

Basic ADLs are: eating, bathing, dressing, using the toilet, walking, and getting out of bed or a chair. Other ADLs are: housekeeping, preparing meals, shopping for food or other necessities, taking medication, etc.

Attached is a blank copy of the Health Care Certification Form (SOC 873) that you can give to your LHCP to complete. If you want, the county can send it to the LHCP for you but you will have to give the county the LHCP's name and address.

The county may accept alternative documentation in place of the SOC 873 as long as it meets all of the following requirements:

1. Indicates that you are not able to do one or more ADLs on your own,
2. Describes the medical or other condition that makes you unable to do ADLs on your own and causes you to need IHSS, and
3. Has been signed by a LHCP within the last 60 days.

Whether you give the SOC 873 to the LHCP yourself or the county sends it for you, you are responsible for making sure it is completed and returned to the county within **45 days** following your reassessment.

If the county does not receive the completed SOC 873 or alternative documentation within 45 days following your reassessment, your IHSS may stop. As with any county action taken on your case, you may request a state hearing if you do not agree with the county's decision.

If you are not able to get the SOC 873 from your LHCP within 45 days, call your social worker at the number listed above **before the due date** to tell him/her why you are not able to meet the due date and ask if the county can grant you more time.