

# Paid Internship Program

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## **What is a Paid Internship Program (PIP)?**

The PIP is a program paid for by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to increase competitive integrated employment (CIE) for people with an intellectual and developmental disability (ID/DD). The PIP offers up to 1,040 intern hours per year and pays at least minimum wage to a person with ID/DD when the person gets an internship position at a job they want.

## **How does a Person with ID/DD get a PIP?**

To get a PIP, a person with a disability must meet with their regional center coordinator for a person-centered meeting to decide if they want to add PIP as a goal to their Individual Program Plan (IPP). If the person decides they want to add PIP as a goal, the person needs to decide what type of job they are interested in getting and then create a plan to get a PIP at that type of job.

## **Can a person with ID/DD start their own business with PIP?**

PIP money may be available for consumers who want to start their own business. This must be decided in the person-centered IPP meeting.

## **How old does a person have to be to get PIP?**

A person with ID/DD may be able to start a PIP when they are 18 years old. This must be decided in a person-centered IPP meeting. There is no upper age limit for PIP.

For more information, visit the DDS PIP Guidelines Webpage at:

[https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/CombinedGuidelines\\_PIP\\_2021.pdf](https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/CombinedGuidelines_PIP_2021.pdf)