

Fall 2026: Here’s what’s happening at Mains'l!



Important Update: New California FMS Standards

On October 14, 2026, the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) released new Financial Management Services (FMS) Provider Standards for the Self-
Determination Program (SDP).

These standards introduce new requirements for FMS providers across California, with a focus on accountability, transparency, quality of services, and participant protections.

What does this mean for families?
Mains’l is actively reviewing the new standards and working across our teams to make the necessary updates to our processes, policies, and technology.

We want to reassure you that **Mains’l is committed to continuing to serve our participants and families in California.**

We are taking these changes seriously and are actively working toward meeting the new requirements.

At this time, there is no action needed from participants. We will continue to share updates as we learn more and work through this transition.

Thank you for continuing to trust Mains’l as your FMS provider!

Behind the Scenes: Meet Your Onboarding Team!

Have you ever wondered what happens after you choose a new vendor or employee through the SDP program? Our Onboarding & Credentialing Team is here to help!



Meet the Team

- Alexandra Piasecki - Senior Manager
- Nikole Wendt – Lead Onboarding Specialist
- Desarae Olson – Onboarding Specialist
- Leticia Martinez – Bilingual Onboarding Specialist (English & Español)

What Does the Team Do?

Our Onboarding Team works behind the scenes to help make the enrollment process as smooth as possible. They review paperwork, confirm service requirements, credentials, and work with families, vendors, and employees to answer questions and keep the process moving.

Each enrollment is assigned to an Onboarding Specialist who helps guide the process from start to finish and serves as a resource along the way.

Since launching our updated onboarding process, the team has supported hundreds of vendor and employee enrollments. They continue to look for ways to improve the process and make onboarding easier for the families we serve while ensuirng each vendor meets all applicable requirments.

We know adding a new vendor or employee is an important step in putting your Spending Plan into action. We're proud of the work this team does to help make that happen!

Thank you to our Onboarding Team for all you do to support our families and participants!

Onboarding Request Form



Transportation Update: Uber & Lyft

We're making transportation easier and more consistent for our California FMS families!

Starting October 1, 2026, Mains'l will no longer process gift card requests for transportation. Participants who currently use Uber gift cards will transition to Uber Health, while participants using Lyft will continue to use Lyft Pass.

These transportation options help provide a more streamlined way to access approved rides while keeping transportation expenses aligned with the participant's Spending Plan.

What does this mean for families?

- Uber: Participants using Uber gift cards will transition to Uber Health.
- Lyft: Participants will continue using Lyft Pass.
- Transportation gift cards: Mains'l will no longer process transportation gift card requests beginning October 1.

Our goal is to make transportation easier to access while reducing extra steps for families and keeping the process consistent with SDP requirements.

If you have questions about your transportation benefit, please reach out to your Support Specialist.

Important Payroll Reminders & Updates



We're including an attestation acknowledgement in Navigation Plus to help ensure employees are paid accurately, timely, and in compliance with applicable requirements.

Employees will now be asked to check an acknowledgement box when submitting their hours.

Why are we makng this change?

By checking this box, the employee is confirming that they have reviewed the hours and work they are submitting and are attesting that the information is true, accurate, and complete. This acknowledgement helps ensure there is a clear record that employees have reviewed and confirmed their time before it is submitted for payment.

Please do not check the acknowledgement box until you have reviewed your hours and confirmed they are accurate. If you find an error, contact your employer or Support Specialist before submitting your time.

As a reminder: Employee hours must be reviewed and approved according to the Payroll Calendar to help ensure employees are paid timely and that payroll is processed in compliance with labor requirements.

View the Payroll Calendar to stay up to date on important deadlines. Want text reminders? Sign up by texting CAFMS to 866-846-6269.

2026 Payroll Calendar

Leadership Changes

We're excited to share some leadership updates within Mains'l California FMS! Stephanie Burggraff has stepped into the role of FMS National Director. In this new role, Stephanie will focus on supporting FMS services, strategic initiatives, and continued growth at the national level.

Christina Hall will serve as California FMS Director, providing leadership and support for our California FMS team, families, and partners.

We're excited for Stephanie as she takes on this new opportunity and look forward to Christina's continued leadership in California. Together, we remain committed to supporting our teams, strengthening our partnerships, and providing quality FMS services to the families we serve.

Seasonal Recipe: A Taste of the Mediterranean



This recipe is featured in the Netflix series Live to 100: Secrets of the Blue Zones.

Sardinia Minestrone is a type of soup, which is a typical cuisine of Sardinia, Italy, home to some of the world's longest living families.

The minestone is heavy on beans and vegetables, its naturally plant based and free of pork and shellfish, making it a good fit for many dietary needs. To make it gluten free, the pasta noodle can be swapped for a gluten free option or left out.

View the Recipe

Get Ready to Vote in California's General Election

Though the General Election doesn't take place until Tuesday, November 3, voting season is already underway!

Ballots will be mailed to every active registered voter starting in early October, so keep an eye on your mailbox.

If you haven't voted before, including in the state of California, the deadline to register in advance was October 19, either online or by mail. However, you can also register and vote all the way through Election Day using Conditional Voter Registration, at your county elections office or any voting center.



If you are under a conservatorship, you still have the right to vote unless a court has specifically taken that right away. All polling places and voting centers are required to be accessible, with voters allowed to bring up to two people of their choice to help mark their ballot, if beeded.

For more information on the election, including checking your registration status, seeing who's on the ballot, and finding your polling place, click the button below!

Learn more about the Election

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