



Washington State Department of
Early Learning

**Infant and Early Childhood Conference
Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center**



Early Support for Infants and Toddlers

Program Update

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Agenda

Welcome/Introductions

Topics

- Current and Future Accountability in Early Intervention
- New Regulations
- Application for Federal Funds
- ESIT Technical Assistance and Training Resources
- ESIT Cost Study and New Rate Study
- New ESIT DMS

Questions



Accountability Topics

- Annual Performance Report
- State Status Determination & Local Status Determination
- Federal Monitoring and Technical Assistance
- State Monitoring and Technical Assistance



Accountability

- Annual Performance Report for FFY 2010-2011
 - Submitted February 2, 2012
 - Nine compliance indicators (1, 7, 8ABC, 9 - 14)
 - Five performance indicators (2,3,4,5,6)
 - Most APR data is obtained through the DMS
 - Lots of new improvement activities were included because of ARRA funding
 - Data continues to reflect a reasonably high level of compliance



Accountability

- State Status Determination & Local Status Determination is based on APR compliance data that includes the correction of previously identified noncompliance
- The four determination categories are:
 - Meets Requirements (in meeting the purposes of Part C)
 - Needs Assistance (in meeting the purposes of Part C)
 - Needs Intervention (in meeting the purposes of Part C)
 - Needs Substantial Intervention (in meeting the purposes of Part C)



Accountability

- Local data is aggregated and reported to OSEP in the ESIT APR
- State aggregated local APR data is used to make the state determination
- Local APR data is used to make local determinations
- State and local determination data must be reported to the public annually



Accountability

- ESIT Annual Determination
 - 2005-2006 - determined to “Need Assistance”
 - 2006-2007 - determined to “Needs Assistance”
 - 2007-2008 - determined to “Needs Assistance”
 - 2008-2009 - determined to “Meets Requirements”
 - 2009-2010 - determined to “Meets Requirements”
 - 2010-2011 - *pending*





Washington State Department of
Early Learning

Monitoring

Kids' Potential, Our Purpose



Federal Monitoring

- Federal monitoring system will be changing.
- ESIT is not scheduled to be monitored until 2014
- A new monitoring system will change the emphasis – decrease focus on compliance, increase focus on improved results
- The new approach is now “results-driven accountability”
- State early Intervention programs need time to improving the quality and extent of early childhood outcome data



State Monitoring

- The state monitoring system will be changed after the federal system is changed
- ESIT will continue to gather compliance monitoring data from the DMS
- ESIT will implement a new local lead agency self-monitoring tool process during the coming contract period
- ESIT will develop an onsite focused monitoring process over the coming year



Technical Assistance and Training



Washington Training and Technical Assistance Cadre (WATTAC)

- Trainers that provider early intervention technical assistance and training or provide required services
 - Sound Options Mediation Services
 - Washington Sensory Disabilities Services
 - FRC and EIS Training Modules
 - Autism Outreach Services
 - PAVE Family Participation
 - Early Intervention Professional Development (Kris Slentz and Kellie Horn)



Washington Training and Technical Assistance Cadre (WATTAC)

- WATTAC Activities
 - Convenes monthly calls to share resources and training dates
 - Provides opportunity to share information and establish common language around training priorities and activities
 - Helps identify, prioritize, plan and deliver statewide training
 - Recent focus – using competencies to revise, coordinate and plan



Guidance Materials and Information

- Practice Guides, Guidelines and Tools
 - Evaluation, Assessment and the Initial IFSP
 - Identifying the Parent for Infants and Toddlers in Foster or Out-of-Home Care
 - Autism Guidelines
- Online Early Intervention Training Modules
 - Module 1 – Introduction to Part C
 - Module 2 – Functional Assessment
 - Module 3 – IFSP Process
- Videos
 - Families are Important
 - Our Next Step – Transition for Parents



Increased Communication

- Quarterly Local Lead Agency Trainings
 - Critical Conversations and Effective Collaboration in the IFSP
 - Linking Assessment and Services
 - Infant Mental Health and Early Intervention
 - EHHDDI Presentation
- Monthly Local Lead Agency Calls
 - Topics determined by callers
- Weekly Data Management System Calls
 - DMS update, Q & A



Increased Communication

- Written Quarterly Program Updates
- Fast Facts – Annual Data and ESIT
- Fast Facts – ESIT Race to the Top Challenge
- Annual APR Data Report Card
- “Keeping Up with Changes in Early Intervention”



Improved Forms and TA Documents

- Parent Rights Long and Short Document
 - In process of making changes based on new regulations.
 - Revised forms will be available by July 1
- Procedural Safeguards Requirements Technical Assistance and Training Guide
 - Revised Training Guide will be available by July 1



Improved Forms and TA Documents

- IFSP Process and Resource Guide
 - revisions have been recommended and are in the process of being finalized
- Guiding Concepts and Technical Assistance Guide
- Monthly Program Data

Note: All documents are available on the ESIT website



New Part C Regulations



New Regulations and Highlights

- Implementation Timeline
- Organization of the regulations related to service components has changed
- Child Find Changes
- Finance Provisions
- Transition Requirements
- Start of the 45-day timeline & exceptional family circumstances



New Regulations Resources

- NECTAC Resources
 - <http://www.nectac.org/partc/303regs.asp>
- IDEA Part C 2004
 - <http://idea.ed.gov/part-c/search/new>

Note: Highlights adapted from presentation developed by Sharon Walsh for the IDEA Infant Toddler Coordinators Association and the Division of Early Childhood Council for Exceptional Children



Implementation Timeline

- Final regulations were published in *Federal Register* September 28, 2011
- Became effective October 28, 2011
- New regulations must be implemented by July 1, 2012
- Written policies and procedures must be in place July 1, 2013
- Public comment and hearings required



Child Find Changes

- Requires “rigorous standards” to appropriately identify children to reduce need for future services
- Added programs for coordination of child find efforts
 - Home Visiting
 - Child Protection and Welfare including CAPTA
 - Family Violence Prevention and Services Act
 - Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI)
 - Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
 - Child Care



Child Find Changes

- Added CAPTA language with clarification that intent is not to include siblings of child, but only child “substantiated”
- Requires referral as soon as possible, but in no case more than 7 days, after the child has been identified



Primary Referral Sources

- Added:
 - Public agencies and staff in the child welfare system, including child protective services and foster care
 - Homeless family shelters
 - Domestic violence shelters and agencies



45 Day Timeline

- Retains 45 day timeline from date the lead agency or EIS provider receives a referral to the IFSP meeting
- Establishes two circumstances in which 45 day timeline would not apply:
 - Child or parent is unavailable due to exceptional family circumstances
 - Parent has not provided consent despite documented repeated attempts

Evaluation

- An evaluation is required unless eligibility has been determined based upon a diagnosed condition through review of records
- If child is found eligible, the following are required:
 - Multidisciplinary assessment of child (including review of evaluation results, observation, etc.)
 - Family-directed assessment of the family (using assessment tool and interview with those family members who elect to participate)
- Evaluation and assessment must be conducted in native language unless clearly not feasible



Informed Clinical Opinion

- Used by qualified personnel when conducting evaluation and assessment
- Used as independent basis to establish a child's eligibility even when instruments do not establish eligibility
- In no event may ICO be used to negate the results of evaluation instruments

<http://www.nectac.org/~pdfs/pubs/nnotes10.pdf>

Informed Clinical Opinion by Jo Shackelford

NECTAC Notes, Issue 10, May 2002



Finance Provisions

- Cannot require parent to enroll in Medicaid or other public insurance program
- Need consent to use Medicaid if parent not already enrolled or will incur any cost
- Requires written notice if state wants to use Medicaid including consent to release personal information to Medicaid agency
- Requires consent for use of private insurance each time consent for services is required unless state legislation meets specified requirements



Finance Provisions

- Requires parent get copy of family cost participation policies and procedures, identifying potential costs that parent may incur
- Co-pays, deductibles and premiums are family costs
- Prohibits disproportionate family cost related to public and private insurance
- Families cannot be charged more than actual cost of service



Finance Provisions

- “A State may establish, consistent with §§303.13(a)(3) and 303.203(b), a system of payments for early intervention services under Part C of the Act, including a schedule of sliding fees or cost participation fees (such as co-payments, premiums, or deductibles) required to be paid under Federal, State, local, or private programs of insurance or benefits for which the infant or toddler with a disability or the child’s family is enrolled, that meets the requirements of §§303.520 and 303.521.”



Finance Provisions

- Each application must include a certification to the Secretary that the arrangements to establish financial responsibility for the provision of Part C services among appropriate public agencies under §303.511 and the lead agency's contracts with EIS providers regarding financial responsibility for the provision of Part C services both meet the requirements in subpart F of this part (§§303.500 through 303.521) and are current as of the date of submission of the certification



Transition

- Includes timelines for ONE notification of children who “may be eligible for special education”
- Includes option for an opt-out policy
- Requires notification to LEA **and SEA**
- Clarifies transition plan is not separate document – part of IFSP
- Requires interagency and intra-agency agreements
- Transition conference must meet IFSP requirements



Transition

- Transition Plan must be developed in the IFSP not fewer than 90 days – and at the discretion of all parties, not more than 9 months – before the toddlers 3rd birthday



Transition Notification

- No fewer than 90 days before 3rd birthday, if child “may be eligible for preschool services under Part B”, must notify SEA and LEA of the child
- If Part C eligibility is determined more than 45 days but less than 90 days before 3rd birthday, and child “may be eligible for preschool”, must notify SEA and LEA as soon as possible after determining eligibility
- If child is referred fewer than 45 days before 3rd birthday, and child “may be eligible for preschool” with parental consent, must notify SEA and LEA – no eligibility determination for Part C required



Transition Conference

- For a child who “may be eligible” for preschool services under Part B:
 - Not fewer than 90 days, but not more than 9 months prior to the child’s third birthday
 - With the approval of the family, must convene conference with Lead agency, family, LEA
- For other children, the lead agency with approval of family, must make reasonable effort to convene a conference with family and other appropriate providers of service



Federal Application



Application for Federal Funds

- State Interagency Agreement
 - Facilitated by the Department of Early Learning with:
 - Health Care Authority New Signer
 - Department of Social and Health Services
 - Department of Health
 - Department of Services for the Blind
 - Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Policies, Procedures, Assurances
- Budget



Application for Federal Funds

- Budget
 - FFY 2012 - \$8,763,854
 - 82% direct service contracts (\$7.1 m)
 - 7% Training and technical assistance (\$626,546)
 - .14% SICC (\$12,000)
 - 10% ESIT administration and DMS staff (\$919,964)
 - FFY 2013 - \$8,832,740
 - Notified on 4/30 ESIT will receive approximately a \$68,886 increase for the coming year





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Cost Study

Kids' Potential, Our Purpose



ESIT Cost Study Recommendations

- Improve provider access to Medicaid funding – all early intervention providers should be able to bill Medicaid
- Improve provider access to private insurance – private insurance is underutilized due to provider type
- Consider centralizing DD and state special education funding in DEL
- Review and revise Part C federal funding formula



ESIT Cost Study Recommendations

- Collect consistent data on local costs and revenues for early intervention
- ESIT to provide clear fiscal policy guidance to local agencies and service providers



ESIT Rate Study

- Contract with Berk Consulting for the purpose of establishing early intervention rates based upon actual costs
- Establishing rates for early intervention will help to inform rate setting with early intervention fund sources (Medicaid, private insurance, state special education, developmental disabilities, etc.)
- Rate Study work will be completed by the end of September



ESIT Data Management System



New ESIT DMS

- The new system is functioning at 95%
- Still in the process of “stabilizing” – working through bugs
- Additional enhancements coming
- Sign up to be on Bob’s listserv to get the most current DMS information – join at: listserv.wa.gov (DEL-ESIT-DMS-NEWS)



New ESIT DMS

- Participate in weekly “talks with Bob”- your Local Lead Agency will be able to share call in information
- Join the SICCC Data Committee
- Please send DMS questions or request for help to esit.help@del.wa.gov or call: 866-482-4325 (first, hit option 9 then option 2)



State Resources

<http://www.del.wa.gov/development/esit/Default.aspx>

ESIT website

<http://www.del.wa.gov/publications/esit/Default.aspx>

ESIT Publications and Documents

<http://www.del.wa.gov/development/esit/Default.aspx>

ESIT Program Updates

<http://www.del.wa.gov/development/esit/Default.aspx>

ESIT Contacts Directory



Federal Resources

National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC)

<http://www.nectac.org>

National Early Childhood Transition Center

<http://www.ihdi.uky.edu/nectc/>

The National Early Childhood Outcomes Center (ECO)

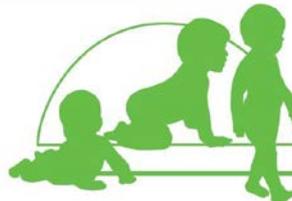
<http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/index.cfm>



Questions



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