

**Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention
Laws and Regulations Workgroup
Tuesday, March 7, 2023
Zoom Meeting
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Welcome and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. Introductions were made and roll call was conducted.

Review of Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda.

Continue Workgroup Discussion from ICC Meeting on 1/19/23

- The Laws and Regulation workgroup of the ICC's Improving State Systems Subcommittee considered the following regulations for their discussion:
 - §52104. Participants in Initial and Annual Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) Meetings and Periodic Reviews
 - § 303.343. IFSP Team meeting and periodic review
 - § 54342. Types of Services
- Workgroup members mentioned that there may be a discrepancy in reimbursement among service providers, depending on their service area. Certain service areas may have difficulty attracting new providers and delivering services on time. The current provider rate study could provide the group with additional information.
- Workgroup members discussed wanting to review the rate study to possibly address any equity issues. It was suggested that members submit their concerns to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) rate study workgroup. It was also suggested that a member draft an email to be reviewed by the workgroup so it can be sent to the DDS rate study workgroup.
- Workgroup members also discussed the topic of Early Start services being "medically necessary" and the potential to increase the funds available to pay for therapy services.
- The following questions were asked to encourage further discussion among the group:
 - Is it possible to acquire additional federal funds?
 - Can there be a centralized billing of insurance companies for therapy services? It is possible to bill Medicaid and Early and Periodic Screening Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) for therapeutic services?
 - Can regional centers (RCs) identify therapy hours that are being provided?
 - Do regulations need to be modified to enable RCs to collect insurance information from families?
 - It is possible to make a recommendation that DDS modify the regulations? Would someone need to look at the existing regulation and propose potential changes?
 - Can RCs pay for a developmental specialist to attend initial IFSPs? The workgroup would need more about this. It may be reliant on how each RC

handles vendorization. According to regulations, an evaluator can be present “by report.” Someone would need to review the regulations regarding this issue.

- Can telehealth services be made a permanent delivery option? DDS shared that there is no end date for remote services, but there is an end date for remote IFSPs of 6/30/2023.
- Lastly, it was mentioned by the workgroup team that resources have been dedicated to software development that shall capture Consumer Electronic Record System (CERS). This software will have services divided by discipline.

Finalize "Next Steps" for Action Plan

- A team member will draft an email regarding the rate study.
- Information discussed will be shared with the ICC about billing and how regulations may need to change.
- The workgroup would need to research the regulations for requirements regarding who needs to be present at IFSPs and look into vendorization regulations as a possible solution.
- An additional workgroup meeting is needed to finalize next steps. It was mentioned that the subsequent meeting would need to adhere to Bagley-Keene.

Member Assignment

- Pablo Velez, Elena Bramble, and Robin Millar were appointed assignments.
- A follow-up workgroup meeting will be scheduled towards the end of the month.
- The group will table any pending items at the next ICC meeting.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

Community Members Present

Elena Bramble
Lori Molhook
Nancy Sager
Pablo Velez
Patty Salcedo
Susan Ducore
Suzanne Sherinian

DDS

Nate Taleon
Reyna Ambriz

WestEd

Ross Adams