

## Pennsylvania System of Payment

Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Educational Act Amendments of 2004 and supporting federal regulations at 34 CFR 303 requires states to establish their system of payment and inform families of the system of payment and show how services will be paid for through Early Intervention.

Services are provided at public expense with no fees charged families. These services include: child find activities, evaluation and assessment activities, service coordination activities that assist the child and family to receive the rights, procedural safeguards and services authorized under the state's EI system including administrative and coordinative activities such as the development, review and evaluation of Individualized Family Service Plans and implementation of procedural safeguards and all components of the statewide system of EI services and, services as defined in Chapter 4226.5 and requirements under PA At 212-1990.

Funding sources for EI include:

Federal Part C when no other funding source is available (evaluation, assessment and services)

EPSDT – federal MA (evaluation, assessment and services except for special instruction and transportation)

Federal Medicaid Waiver under the Infant, Toddlers, and Families Waiver (services identified in Chapter 4226. 5 (v)).

State general funds – child find, evaluation, assessment, services and administrative and coordinative activities

County Match funds – child find, evaluation, assessment, services and administrative and coordinative activities

Private insurance – services identified under Chapter 4226.5(v).

Income information is not collected. No fees are charged for not providing income information. Federal Part C funds are considered payor of last resort and may not be used for services that are otherwise paid for from another public or private source. Although private insurance is considered a potential funding source for EI, Pennsylvania insurance companies do not consider EI services as covered services. Families may request that their private insurance be used as long as there is no cost to the family including a decrease in lifetime coverage or any other benefit, an increase in premiums or discontinuation of the policy and out-of-pocket expense such as payment of a deductible amount incurred in filing a claim. If the family requests that

private insurance be used, parental consent will be obtained to disclose personally identifiable information prior to any billing occurring. If the family does not give consent to use their private insurance, the lack of consent shall not delay or deny EI services to the child and family.

Families have the right to file a complaint, mediation or due process hearing should they disagree with the financing of their EI services.

Funding options are explained prior to the development of the Individualized Family Service Plan.

Families shall not be required to obtain PA Medical Assistance to receive EI services. Service Coordinators shall discuss with the family potential benefits that MA may offer the family and assist the family in applying when asked. Consent to use MA shall be obtained. If a family does not provide consent for the use of the child's or family's MA, EI services shall remain available to the family. Families shall receive written notification that includes their consent for the disclosure of the child's personally identifiable information to the MA program, a statement that services are provided at no cost and if consent is not given, services shall not be denied to the child and family (as listed on the IFSP and that the family has provided consent to receive), and a statement that the family can withdraw consent at any time.

For families who have both private insurance and PA Medical Assistance, the local Infant/Toddler EI program shall insure that the private insurance denial is on file prior to billing MA for eligible EI services.

\*\*\*\*The above information is taken from the Pennsylvania System of Payment Announcement (EI – 13 # 02) effective 3/19/2013. If you desire to see this announcement in it's entirety, please inform your Service Coordinator.