



ANNOUNCEMENT: EI-10 #09
OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY LEARNING
BUREAU OF EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

ISSUE DATE: November 9, 2010
EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2011
SUNSET DATE: On-Going

SUBJECT:	State Set Rates for Infant/Toddler Early Intervention Services
TO:	MH/MR Administrators and Infant/Toddler Early Intervention Providers
FROM:	Todd Klunk Acting Deputy Secretary, Office of Child Development and Early Learning



PURPOSE: To announce the change in Infant/Toddler Early Intervention (EI) service rate reimbursement from county negotiated rates to state set rates.

BACKGROUND: Historically, Infant/Toddler EI Programs reimbursed providers based upon the county negotiated rates consistent with 55 Pa Code § 4300.116. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the federal agency responsible for the oversight of Pennsylvania's Infants, Toddlers and Families (ITF) Waiver, has required that Pennsylvania establish state set EI rates prior to the next renewal of the ITF Waiver application.

DISCUSSION: In response to the CMS directive and to alleviate concerns of inequitable reimbursement to all Infant/Toddler EI providers through out the Commonwealth, the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) will establish state set rates consistent with 55 Pa Code § 4300.115. With this transition, Infant/Toddler EI programs and providers will no longer be required to negotiate or determine unit costs based on the allowable cost standards in 55 Pa Code § 4300.82—4300.108.

The attached State Set Fee Schedule includes the OCDEL approved state rate for each of the identified services. The state set rates reflect what was previously indicated as the maximum allowable rates. The attached County Negotiated Fee Schedule lists the services that will continue to be negotiated between Infant/Toddler EI programs and providers. The maximum rate for service coordination is listed on the County Negotiated Fee Schedule to address the circumstances in which counties contract for the provision of service coordination services. The current approved service coordination rates already in place for each county program and their contractors will remain unchanged. Audit provisions for providers delivering services as listed on the County Negotiated Fee Schedule will remain consistent with the 55 Pa Code § 4300.116 and § 4300.161, and will not apply to providers who earn less than the thresholds established in the Compliance Attestation issued by the Department (see attached).

NEXT STEPS: Effective January 1, 2011, Infant/Toddler EI Providers will be reimbursed at the state established rates listed on the attached fee schedule. To assist in the implementation of the state set rates, OCDEL will initiate a mass rate change via the statewide data system (PELICAN) effective January 1, 2011.

These rate changes will be initiated utilizing ARRA funding and will not necessitate county match funds for FY 10-11 and FY 11-12. OCDEL will assess any impacts the rate changes will have on each county allocation. During the first rebudget, adjustments will be considered utilizing ARRA funds.

County EI programs will need to amend current contracts mid-year to reflect those changes on the State Set Fee Schedule. There is no need to make mid-year changes for the EI services listed on the County Negotiated Fee Schedule. OCDEL is currently developing instructions and guidance for counties on the process of completing the Income and Expenditure Report (I&E). This information will be issued subsequently.

Comments and Questions Regarding this Announcement Should be Directed to the Office of Child Development and Early Learning, Bureau of Early Intervention Services or ra-ocdintervention@state.pa.us.