

ANNOUNCEMENT

EI 22-#03



Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning
Bureau of Early Intervention & Family Supports

Issue Date: 8/30/2022
Effective Date: 7/1/2022
Subject: 2022-2023 Fee Schedule Increase
To: Infant/Toddler Early Intervention (EI) Leadership
From: Tracey Campanini *Tracey Campanini*
Deputy Secretary, Office of Child Development & Early Learning

PURPOSE

To announce a 3% increase to all Early Intervention service rates from the previously published 2022-2023 fee schedule.

BACKGROUND

Historically, Infant/Toddler Early Intervention Programs reimbursed providers based upon the county negotiated rates consistent with 55 Pa Code § 4300.116. In response to the CMS directive and to alleviate concerns of inequitable reimbursement to all Infant/Toddler Early Intervention providers throughout the Commonwealth, the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) established state set rates consistent with 55 Pa Code § 4300.115. With this transition, Infant/Toddler Early Intervention programs and providers were no longer required to negotiate or determine unit costs based on the allowable cost standards in 55 Pa Code § 4300.82—4300.108 except for Special Instruction Vision and Hearing.

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) provides a temporary increase to the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) for certain Medicaid expenditures for home and community-based services (HCBS). Additionally, the ARPA appropriated funding for IDEA programs, specifically for programs for infants and toddlers with disabilities under Part C. The funding must be used to enhance, expand, or strengthen IDEA and HCBS services. In 2021/2022, OCDEL used the combined federal funds (ARPA - IDEA Part C & HCBS FMAP increase) to support the rate increase announced for fiscal year 2021-2022 across all rates for Infant/Toddler Early Intervention services.

Medical Assistance Bulletin 99-22-02 Updates to Guidelines for the Delivery of Physical Health Services via Telemedicine was issued on May 6, 2022. The purpose of this bulletin is to clarify the guidelines for the delivery of services provided via Tele-Intervention. In response to the MA Bulletin 99-22-02 Early Intervention programs will formally support the use of Tele-

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Intervention. OCDEL supports Tele-Intervention for children and families at the choice of the family. Tele-Intervention is not at the convenience or preference of the provider but rather what is in the best interest of the family and the family's choice.

DISCUSSION

Through the 2022-23 budget, a permanent rate increase of 3 percent for Early Intervention Services was enacted. This rate is in addition to the 3% increase funded through ARPA-IDEA previously published rates for 2021-22 and 2022-23. The attached Fee Schedule includes the 3% rate increase.

The attached Fee Schedule also includes the new Place of Service code for Tele-Intervention for Early Intervention. When providing services to a child and family by Tele-Intervention, the provider must identify the Place of Service for Tele-Intervention on the billing claim in Promise. The Place of Service for Tele-Intervention for Early Intervention is 02.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), for the purposes of Medicaid, defines telemedicine as the use of two-way, real time interactive telecommunications technology that includes, at a minimum, audio, and video equipment as a mode of delivering healthcare services.

Please see the attached MA Bulletin 99-22-02 for extensive guidance regarding providing Tele-Intervention

Infant/Toddler Early Intervention Programs are responsible for monitoring providers to ensure contracted providers are submitting claims for eligible services that are delivered by qualified professionals. This responsibility includes confirming procedures are in place to ensure the appropriate use of funds that meet federal, state, and local requirements.

NEXT STEPS

1. Infant/Toddler programs should share this announcement with all of their Early Intervention providers.
2. Infant/Toddler programs and providers should review the MA Bulletin 99-22-02 for further information.
3. Infant/Toddler Early Intervention programs and providers can use the updated 2022-23 fee schedule rates for services delivered on an after July 1, 2022.
4. Early Intervention claims filed prior to this announcement with eligible dates of services may be resubmitted as a claims adjustment at the time and expense of the

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Early Intervention provider. Timely filing requirements must be abided by at all times with no exceptions or exemptions.

5. Infant/Toddler Early Intervention Providers shall update any guidance, billing protocols around place of service Tele-Intervention 02. Providers will need to begin to bill using the 02 Tele-Intervention Place of Service code as of July 1, 2022.
6. Infant/Toddler Early Intervention Programs will need to have a process in place to review the Place of Service 02 when reviewing provider billing.

Comments and Questions regarding this Announcement should be directed to the Office of Child Development and Early Learning, Bureau of Early Intervention & Family Supports at ra-ocdinterventional@pa.gov