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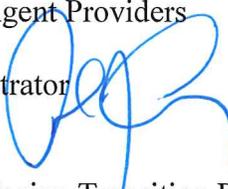
# IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

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## MEDICAID INFORMATION RELEASE 2012 -13

**To:** Developmental Disabilities Agencies (DDA), Children's Service Coordination, and Fiscal Employer Agent Providers

**From:** Paul J. Leary, Administrator  
Division of Medicaid 

**Subject:** Children's System Redesign Transition Plan Completion

Effective July 1, 2013, children's developmental therapy (DT), intensive behavioral intervention (IBI), and service coordination for children with developmental disabilities will be discontinued. These services are ending as part of the final phase of transitioning to the new children's developmental disabilities benefits under the Children's System Redesign, as approved by the Idaho Legislature in 2011.

The Children's System Redesign implemented July 1, 2011. In order to move families into the new system, the Department has developed a phased implementation plan requiring families to transition to the redesigned services according to their child's birthday, as defined in IDAPA 16.03.10 "Medicaid Enhanced Plan Benefits", Section 523.

It is important for providers, families, and advocates to understand that the old services are ending on June 30, 2013. Families waiting until the old services are discontinued to transition will experience an interruption in services. Providers will not be able to bill DT, IBI, or developmental disability (DD) service coordination for children after June 30, 2013, and will not be able to bill redesign services until a plan has been completed and authorized by the Department. If a large portion of families continue to choose not to transition prior to the expiration of services, the Department anticipates that a family could lose services for up to 12 months due to a large number of families attempting to transition at the last minute.

Three months prior to a child's birthday, the Department is required to notify the family of the transition process as defined in IDAPA 16.03.10.523.02. However, it is the responsibility of the family to contact the Department to schedule an appointment at this time to ensure their child does not experience an interruption in services. Families with a scheduled appointment will be the first priority. The eligibility and planning process takes up to 90 days, but it is anticipated that the process may take longer given the volume of children enrolling at once.

Families need to contact their local Division of Family and Community Services (FACS) office as soon as possible to begin the application process. The regional contact information is found on the Children's Redesign website at [www.redesignforchildren.medicaid.idaho.gov](http://www.redesignforchildren.medicaid.idaho.gov).

At this time, applications have been sent to all families of children receiving DD services that the Department has on record. If providers are aware of families who have not received a DD application, it is critical that the provider informs them of the process to contact the Department.

### **Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)**

Children whose health coverage is through the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) do not qualify for children's developmental disabilities (DD) benefits under the redesign system.

Children's Health Insurance Program eligibility is based only on the family's income. These children currently enrolled through CHIP may be eligible for DD services if the family can demonstrate that the child qualifies for DD services based on their disability.

To qualify based on disability, the child must either meet Social Security Administration (SSA) disability or eligibility for the Katie Beckett program. The SSA makes a disability determination based on income and diagnostic criteria. The Katie Beckett program is available for families whose income exceeds both SSA and Medicaid criteria, but whose child's needs are so severe that without services they would require institutional care.

#### **• Provider Process for Checking Eligibility (Children on CHIP are not eligible)**

Providers should check DD eligibility frequently as a child can switch eligibility categories at any point during the year. If it is identified that the child is not eligible for DD services, the provider cannot bill or be paid for services. To assist families and the Department, it is important that providers notify the child's case manager when this is discovered. Immediately notifying the case manager and family will help the Department quickly address the issue and assist parents and providers on how to proceed.

Providers need to ensure they are not delivering redesign services to children who are not qualified for children's DD services. To check eligibility on the provider portal, the provider enters the child's MID number and a procedure code. For a child to be eligible, the child's benefit must be one of the following:

- TRAD\_DD Children's Waiver Level 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5
- FDS\_DD Children's Waiver Level 1, 2, 3, or 4

#### **• Process for Families of Children on CHIP**

In order for a child currently on CHIP to continue receiving DD services, the family must take the following steps to apply for services based on disability:

- 1) Call the Social Security office at **(800) 772-1213**, to apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for their child.

- 2) If the child is eligible for SSI
  - Social Security will send a letter saying the child is approved.
  - The family calls Rebecca Fadness at (208) 334-5701, to let her know the child is eligible.
  - The family will be sent an application for children's DD services.
  
- 3) If the child is NOT eligible for SSI
  - The family will ask the Social Security office what the reason is for the denial.
  - The family calls Rebecca Fadness at (208) 334-5701, to let her know the child is not eligible.
  - If the denial is based on the family exceeding SSI financial criteria, the family may be able to apply for the Katie Beckett program.
  - If the child is eligible under the Katie Beckett program, the family will be sent an application for children's DD services.
  
- 4) If the child is NOT eligible for SSI based on disability or Katie Beckett
  - The child does not qualify for children's DD services.
  - If the family's income or the child's disability changes, the family should reapply at that time.
  - If the child is currently receiving DD services under the old system, the child may continue receiving those services until they are discontinued.

In addition to this information release, the Department is sending a letter to families regarding the steps to take to apply for DD services. It is important that families act now to ensure the process is completed by June 30, 2013, after which the old benefits will no longer be available.

If you have any questions about the information found in this information release, please contact the Alternative Care Coordinator, Bureau of Developmental Disability Services, Division of Medicaid at (208) 287-1169, or at [ertzl@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:ertzl@dhw.idaho.gov).

Thank you for your continued participation in the Idaho Medicaid Program.

PJL/rs