



PURCHASE OF SERVICE GUIDELINE

05/02/2011	REQUIRED SERVICES <u>EARLY INTERVENTION (0-3)</u>	FINAL
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I. DEFINITION

Early Intervention Services means services that are designed to meet the developmental needs of the each eligible child and the needs of the child related to enhancing the child's development; are selected in collaboration with the parents; are provided by qualified personnel; and as specified in the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). [FCR 303.12 (a)]

Types of services, as defined by FCR 303.12 (d) (1-16), include:

- Assistive Technology device;
- Audiology;
- Family Training;
- Health services;
- Medical services only for diagnostic or evaluation purposes;
- Nursing services;
- Nutrition services;
- Occupational Therapy;
- Physical Therapy;
- Psychological services;
- Service Coordination;
- Social Work services;
- Specialized Instruction;
- Speech-Language Pathology;
- Transportation and related costs; and
- Vision services

II. CRITERIA

The regional center may purchase required Early Intervention services upon recommendation by a regional center consultant or multidisciplinary team if one of the following criteria is met:

- The infant/toddler has an established risk of developing a developmental disability because of biological, medical, or environmental factors and an assessment has indicated that an infant development program may reduce that risk.

OR

- The infant/toddler has been diagnosed as having a developmental delay or developmental disability and an assessment has indicated that an infant development program may remediate the delay or lessen the effects of the disability.

III. AMOUNT OF SERVICE

The specific program, frequency, and intensity of services which are provided for the child will be determined by:

- The recommendations of qualified professionals who conducted the assessments;
- The child's individual developmental needs;
- The priorities of the parent(s), legal guardian(s), or authorized representative; and
- The presence of medical and/or physical concerns.

In instances where the child is medically fragile, a medical release may be requested from the child's physician prior to the purchase of service.

IV. ALTERNATE FUNDING

Effective July 1, 2009, WIC 4659 (c) regional centers shall not purchase any service that would otherwise be provided through generic resources. Regional centers shall first explore these resources including but not limited to: Private trusts, private insurance, Medi-Cal, Medi-Care, California Children's Services, local education agency, EPSDT, CHAMPUS, private health plans, HMO's, Veteran's Benefits, Department of Rehabilitation, ability-to-pay programs at county facilities and clinics, etc.

V. PROCESS FOR PURCHASE OF SERVICE

- A. For a new service request: Service coordinator will request case review by appropriate consultant for program planning and recommendations.

- B. For on-going service continuation: Service coordinator will request case review by appropriate consultant for program planning and recommendations based on new/current information and reports.
- C. Upon recommendation of required services, the service coordinator will locate a vendor available to provide services as recommended.
- D. The Service Coordinator will generate an authorization. The Service Coordinator will send authorization to vendor.

V. EVALUATION OF SERVICE EFFECTIVENESS

The planning team, vendor reports, review by Early Intervention consultant, and consumer/family feedback will serve as the mechanism for evaluating the effectiveness of the service. If the duration of the service exceeds six months, the purchase of the service will need to be evaluated every six months or more frequently as recommended by consultant.