

Task Force to Evaluate Virginia’s Early Intervention System Questions for “5 State Review Team” To Use in Securing Information

Service Issues

1. As the Part C system in your state has undergone development and changes, how have the changes impacted supports and services for families? Specifically, do the changes support teamwork? Do the changes support a primary service provider model of service provision?
2. How is service coordination provided in your state? What is the average caseload? Can service coordinators also be a provider of other EI services?
3. Has trend data been collected on frequency, intensity, and location of services?
4. Is data collected to reflect differences in the initial IFSP and subsequent revisions?

Natural Environment Issues

1. Who makes the decision to provide a service in a setting other than the natural environment?
2. How is this (setting other than natural environment) documented?
3. How is the service paid for if the family makes the decision?
4. What are the rates for services in natural environments? In center settings? Are there other rate differentials?
5. Has your state been monitored by OSEP with respect to natural environments? Was your state cited as being out of compliance?

Local System Issues

1. Who employs the local interagency coordinator?
2. How does your state handle a central point of entry?
3. Can the central point of entry also be a provider of services?
4. What is the relationship between the central point of entry and the local interagency coordinating council?

General Finance Issues

1. How much money is in your total EI system and from what sources?
2. Of the total early intervention costs, what percent of your budget is used by the lead agency for operating costs?
3. How many children are being served? What is the cost per child?
4. How is the local interagency council funded? How is the local interagency coordinator paid for?
5. How is service coordination paid for? Is it reimbursed by child or by contact hour or by a monthly rate?

6. How “secure” is the system in your state – do you foresee a problem in continuing to fund your system?
7. Has your state undertaken any cost analysis studies? If so, what are the results?
8. Is local government making financial contributions to the Part C system? If so, is this counted and reported in the state budget for Part C?

Insurance/Medicaid/Payment Issues

1. Is insurance accessed for Part C services in addition to Medicaid? If so, how is this done (re: need for authorization and getting therapists to have provider numbers with insurance companies)?
2. Are families giving permission for their insurance to be billed? What is the success rate in accessing insurance?
3. What problems have surfaced (re: private insurance billing)?
4. Are families responsible for co-pays and deductibles?
5. Does your state have an ability-to-pay policy?
6. Who is responsible for collecting fees through ability-to-pay?
7. Does your state use the ISFP as the medical plan of care?
8. What role does EPSDT play in funding EI services?
9. What EI services are covered under the state’s Medicaid plan (state plan option)?
10. How else is Medicaid funding used? What other methods are used to seek Medicaid funding?

Central Billing Issues

1. Does your state have centralized billing?
- If yes, (ask 2-10)**
2. What problem were you trying to solve when you went to centralized billing?
 3. What is the relationship of the centralized billing system to the lead agency?
 4. What is the cost of the centralized billing system to the lead agency?
 5. Is a per child cost established?
 6. Is the centralized billing agency liable for (Medicaid) audits and meeting Medicaid requirements?
 7. Who does the centralized billing agency collect from? What third parties are involved?
 8. Does the central billing agency collect co-pays and/or fees from families?
 9. What are the advantages?
 10. What are the disadvantages?