



From the Early Steps State Office

Winter 2010

Dear Friends,

Part C of the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires public input on proposed policies and the annual renewal application for Part C funds. This includes input from families, providers, advocacy groups and other interested parties throughout Florida. The information will be available for review beginning on January 28, 2011 through March 28, 2011. The opportunity for public input is between February 21, 2011 through March 22, 2011. To view the information electronically, please go to <http://www.cms-kids.com>. Comments may be submitted electronically to CMS_EarlyStepsPublicComment@doh.state.fl.us.

Comments may also be delivered to the Early Steps State Office listed below:

Mailing Address:

Renee Jenkins
Florida Department of Health
Children's Medical Services
Early Steps State Office
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #A06
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1707

Express Mail/Hand Delivery Address:

Renee Jenkins
Florida Department of Health
Children's Medical Services
Early Steps State Office
4025 Esplanade Way, Room 235L
Tallahassee, FL 32399

The Early Steps State Office is also conducting public hearings at three sites to gather input on the proposed policies and application. The sites, dates, and locations are below:

SITE	LOCATION	DATE/TIME
Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Children's Diagnostic & Treatment Center 1401 South Federal Highway Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316	Tuesday, February 22, 2011 4:00 p.m. --- 7:30 p.m. (Eastern time)
Orlando, FL	Orlando Regional Medical Center 1414 Kuhl Avenue Orlando, FL 32803	Wednesday, February 23, 2011 4:00 p.m. --- 7:30 p.m. (Eastern time)
Tallahassee, FL	Children's Home Society 1000 W. Tharpe Street Tallahassee, Florida 32303	Thursday, February 24, 2011 4:00 p.m. --- 7:30 p.m. (Eastern time)

Any person requiring special accommodations to participate in the hearings, such as interpretation into languages other than English or sign language interpretation must contact Dawn Lynch at (850) 245-4200 or send an e-mail request to CMS_EarlyStepsPublicComment@doh.state.fl.us no later than February 8, 2011.

Please note that the three ways to provide input is through the Early Steps website listed above, mailed to the Early Steps State Office via commercial/express delivery, or by attending a public hearing. It is important to be as clear and direct as possible and that you reference the specific policy and/or section of the application you are providing input on. All comments must be received by March 22, 2011 and will be reviewed and considered. Comments will be posted for public review without personal information at <http://www.cms-kids.com>.

Input from families is critical to ensure Early Steps continues to meet the needs of infants and toddlers with disabilities and developmental delays, and their families. Thank you in advance for your input!

Sincerest Regards,

Kelly Purvis, Lead State Parent Consultant
Early Steps State Office
Kelly_Purvis@doh.state.fl.us

