



## **ESSO WEEKLY MEMO –SEPTEMBER 8, 2011**

### **ACTION NEEDED**

- 1. QA Self Assessment Submissions**
- 2. Changes Related to Eligibility for Early Steps  
(With 1 Attachment)**

### **INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- 3. Fingerprinting and Background Screening Requirements/  
Florida Medicaid Enrollment  
(With 1 Attachment)**
- 4. Final IDEA, Part C Regulations**
- 5. TPA Discussion Group**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS, MEETINGS, OR TRAININGS**

- 6. Instructions for the 2011 Family Survey Process  
(With 1 Attachment)**
- 7. Provider Training: Verifying Medicaid Recipient Eligibility  
(Provider Types: All)**
- 8. INSITE Training  
(With 1 Attachment)**

## **ACTION NEEDED**

### **1. QA Self Assessment Submissions**

As you begin to complete your self assessments, please remember to submit your worksheets and backup documentation that support barrier codes **VIA ENCRYPTED EMAIL OR CD VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY**, to Kelly Johnson.

***In addition to the worksheets and backup documentation, we are also asking for each LES to send the complete IFSP for the first child on Worksheet 1.***

The address for overnight delivery is:

Kelly Johnson  
Children's Medical Services/Early Steps  
4025 Esplanade Way, Suite 235.12

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1700

Electronic Submission (ENCRYPTED SUBMISSION ONLY) may be sent to Kelly Johnson at [kelly\\_johnson2@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:kelly_johnson2@doh.state.fl.us)

Due dates for your QA Self Assessments are:

Small LES- September 2, 2011

Medium LES- September 12, 2011

Large LES- September 23, 2011

### **2. Changes Related to Eligibility for Early Steps (With 1 Attachment)**

In response to requests from the field, attached is a letter that you may use to inform providers about changes that will take effect on October 1, 2011 related to eligibility for Early Steps. In addition, Kelly Purvis (State Parent Consultant) has prepared an article for families covering the same changes, and it is being sent to Family Resource Specialists for inclusion in the quarterly family newsletters.

## **INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

### **3. Fingerprinting and Background Screening Requirements/ Florida Medicaid Enrollment (With 1 Attachment)**

In order to enroll in the Florida Medicaid program, most providers must submit fingerprint cards in order for the Agency of Health Care Administration (AHCA) to conduct background screening. These requirements are outlined in Florida Statute and in Florida Administrative Code rule, and in Federal Regulation. Detailed Florida statutory language, federal regulatory language, current handbook language and full text of a provider alert sent on August 15, 2011 are included in the *Fingerprinting and Background Screening Requirements/ Florida Medicaid Enrollment* attachment. The provider alert was sent to clarify fingerprinting/ background screening requirements regarding a conflict between the Medicaid provider application guide and current Florida Statute.

AHCA has been working to update the Medicaid provider enrollment guide and handbook which is currently in the rule process. Meanwhile, the fingerprinting and background screening requirements for providers are covered in the attachment.

### **4. Final IDEA, Part C Regulations**

Final implementing regulations for the 2004 reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C are expected to be published in the federal register during the month of September 2011. The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) convened a brief conference call on September 6, 2011 to announce the pending publication of the regulations and to share that there are four primary areas of change in the regulations:

- Use of insurance
- Parent confidentiality rights
- Timelines
- Definition of multi-disciplinary

The pre-publication Part C final regulations are posted at <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/news.html>

The Early Steps State Office is reviewing the pre-publication version to determine the implications for Florida's Early Steps System. The regulations will be effective 30 days from the date of official publication in the federal register. OSEP will provide technical assistance and guidance to states related to the regulations. States will have time to produce written policies and procedures that are consistent with the regulations. It is likely that revisions to Florida's written

policies will be submitted to OSEP for approval along with the 2012 Annual Part C Application for Funds after a period of public review and participation. The ESSO will ensure that early intervention stakeholders in Florida are informed and involved.

## **5. TPA Discussion Group**

On the Directors and Coordinators Call on September 7th 2011, the TPA Discussion Group gave a high level overview of the TPA system. The members of this group are:

David Johnson (ESSO)  
Donna Smoker (Big Bend)  
Harry Fogle (West Central)  
John Lee (Northeastern)  
Kathy Riley (Central)  
Lynn Marie Firehammer (ESSO)  
Penny Geiger (Western Panhandle)  
Ray Rodriguez (North Dade)  
Renee Jenkins (ESSO)  
Sally Golden-McCord (ESSO)

If you wish to have a topic discussed or questions answered on the Directors and Coordinators call related to the TPA, please e-mail your topic/question to:  
[David\\_Johnson3@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:David_Johnson3@doh.state.fl.us)

## **UPCOMING EVENTS, MEETINGS, OR TRAININGS**

### **6. Instructions for the 2011 Family Survey Process (With 1 Attachment)**

Please see the attached Instructions for the 2011 Family Survey process. A conference call is scheduled on September 13, 2011 from 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm (EST) with the Local Family Survey Leads to discuss in greater detail. Should you have questions, please contact Kelly Purvis at [Kelly\\_Purvis@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Kelly_Purvis@doh.state.fl.us).

### **7. Provider Training: Verifying Medicaid Recipient Eligibility (Provider Types: All)**

Training on how to **Verify Medicaid Recipient Eligibility** will be held on the dates listed below. Medicaid providers are invited to participate. The training will be performed via teleconference.

To join the teleconference training, please dial **1-888-808-6959** and, at the prompt, enter the conference code: **3054466900**.

Each training session below is limited to 100 participants. If the session is full when you call, please plan to participate in another session. **You don't need to register or reserve space, just call at the designated time.**

The training will follow a PowerPoint presentation found at the following link: <http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/e-library/index.shtml>.

Providers may want to print a copy before the presentation. Any questions can be emailed **prior** to or during the teleconference to Harold Walker at: [Harold.Walker@ahca.myflorida.com](mailto:Harold.Walker@ahca.myflorida.com).

Responses to the questions will be provided by the trainer at the end of the presentation or posted to the website listed above.

The dates and times are listed below. All times are Eastern Standard Time.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>
<b>Tuesday, September 13, 2011</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday, September 20, 2011</b>	<b>2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday, September 27, 2011</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.</b>

If you have any questions about the teleconferences, please contact Yolanda Sacipa at: [Yolanda.Sacipa@ahca.myflorida.com](mailto:Yolanda.Sacipa@ahca.myflorida.com).

You may access Florida Medicaid handbooks and contact information for your local Medicaid area office on this Medicaid Web site: <http://mymedicaid-florida.com/>.

## **8. INSITE Training (With 1 Attachment)**

INSITE Training will be held at the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind Parent Services - Parent Infant Program in St. Augustine, Florida Oct. 14-15-16 and Nov. 4-5-6 2011. Full details are in the attachment.

The class is limited to 26 participants. Registration is due by October 3rd. Payment must be made prior to class in order to hold the space. For additional information, please contact Kim Carr, Coordinator of Blind/VI, Early Intervention Services. Florida School for the Deaf and Blind at 904 827-2232 or email at [carrk@fsdb.k12.fl.us](mailto:carrk@fsdb.k12.fl.us)