



ESSO WEEKLY MEMO

March 13, 2014

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19 Days Remaining in Public Comment Period

****Please note updated webinar link****

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19 Days Remaining in Public Comment Period

SEE BELOW REVISED LINK FOR ONLINE MEETINGS

This is a reminder to review the Early Steps Proposed Policies and Annual Part C Application for funds at http://www.floridahealth.gov/AlternateSites/CMS-Kids/home/resources/es_policy/es_Policy.html. To date, the Early Steps State Office has received comments from three individuals covering 27 proposed policies, attachments and forms. Comments will be accepted through April 1, 2014.

Please note that due to technical issues, the online link for the public meetings has been updated and is noted below. The link previously provided will not work for these meetings.

Please share the attached notices with staff, parents, providers, advocacy groups/ organizations and other stakeholders in your area and let them know that the link has been updated. The notices and information at http://www.floridahealth.gov/AlternateSites/CMS-Kids/home/resources/es_policy/es_Policy.html will be updated soon with the new online link. Public Meetings to hear comments via webinar will be conducted on the following dates and times:

	DATE/TIME	TOLL FREE NUMBER	PARTICIPANT PASSCODE
1	Wednesday 3/26/14	1 888 670 3525	6272156732 then #
	To join the online meeting, please go to NEW LINK AT: http://connectpro11164961.adobeconnect.com/r4v5mlq0rd0/ Log-in as a Guest		
2	Thursday 3/27/14	1 888 670 3525	6272156732 then #
	To join the online meeting, please go to NEW LINK AT: http://connectpro11164961.adobeconnect.com/r4v5mlq0rd0/ Log-in as a Guest		

You may submit comments regarding the proposed policies or Part C application for funds to CMS.EarlyStepsPublicComment@flhealth.gov or via other methods outlined in the notice. You are encouraged to carefully review the proposed changes. Please comment regarding how the proposed changes will impact families, local operations/ workload, data collection/reporting or other areas, either in a positive or negative way. Please identify the specific section or sections of the proposed policy documents, form or Part C application that each of your comments addresses. Thank you.

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MEDICAID UPDATES:

1. Medicaid Alerts and Questions

The Florida Medicaid program has created an e-mail alert system to supplement the present method of receiving Provider Alerts information and to alert registered subscribers of "late-breaking" health care information. An e-mail will be delivered to your mailbox when Medicaid policy clarifications or other health care information is available that is appropriate for your selected area and provider type. Visit the [Florida Medicaid's Health Care Alerts](#) page to subscribe now, or to unsubscribe or update your subscription at any time. Please direct questions about Medicaid policies to your local Medicaid area office. The Medicaid area offices' addresses and phone numbers are available on the [Area Offices](#) web page.

2. Visit the AHCA Youtube Channel

To view previously held webinars as well as video coverage of AHCA events, campaigns, and initiatives around the state, please visit <http://www.youtube.com/AHCAFlorida>

INFORMATION & RESOURCES

3. Family Resource Specialist Contact List Updated

Please see the [attached](#) updated list of contacts.

4. National Survey for Families

The Early Intervention Family Alliance (EIFA) with help from the University of Connecticut Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Research, Education, and Services is recruiting families across the nation to complete a short survey to obtain feedback on their experiences while receiving early intervention services. The requirements for families to take part in the survey is that they have received early intervention services in the last six years or are currently receiving services. The survey is accessible online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MB3WCWX> beginning March 11, 2014 and will be available until April 16, 2014. Please share the [attached](#) flyer with families to explain this survey. Please contact Kim Travers with the Early Intervention Family Alliance at kntravers@windstream.net or 330-908-3107 if you have any questions or need additional information. Kim is also available to support any family if they have questions or need assistance in accessing the survey.

STAFF & LES SPOTLIGHT

5. Please Submit Your Employee/LES Spotlight

Please submit items for recognition of major accomplishments, awards, and milestones reached by either LES/ESSO Employees OR Local Early Steps Programs. All entries must be emailed to Katie Williams and Patricia Herring by 5:00 EST on Tuesdays. The subject line should read "ESSO Weekly Memo Entry." Please include a picture when possible.

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PROGRAM MANAGER INFORMATION:

6. List of Program Managers and their Contact Information

The assigned program manager at ESSO is the primary contact person for the LES to submit questions, issues or concerns to. The program manager will be responsible for responding to the LES and prior to responding, will inform and involve others in the ESSO, when necessary, to assist in clarifying or resolving the issue. **Early Steps State Office Telephone Number - (850) 245-4444**

LES	Program Manager	PI Lead
Bay Area	Haylie Mistrot (ext. 2267) Haylie.Mistrot@flhealth.gov	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela.Marcus@flhealth.gov
Big Bend	Dawn Lynch (ext. 2270) Dawn.Lynch@flhealth.gov	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela.Marcus@flhealth.gov
Central Florida	Susan Casey (ext. 2231) Susan.Casey@flhealth.gov	Jesse Kemper (ext. 2227) Jesse.Kemper@flhealth.gov
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Gulf Central	Mary Sandler (ext. 2240) Mary.Sandler@flhealth.gov	Angela Marcus (ext. 3278) Angela.Marcus@flhealth.gov
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North Central	Dawn Lynch (ext. 2270) Dawn.Lynch@flhealth.gov	Jesse Kemper (ext. 2227) Jesse.Kemper@flhealth.gov
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Western Panhandle	Katie Williams (ext. 2211) Kathryn.Williams@flhealth.gov	Jesse Kemper (ext. 2227) Jesse.Kemper@flhealth.gov

Children's Medical Services/Early Steps Family Resource Specialists

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An Invitation from EIFA to Participate National Family Survey



Are you the parent or caregiver of a child who is receiving or has received early intervention services within the last six years?

Take part in this important national survey conducted by the Early Intervention Family Alliance (EIFA) that is aimed at hearing from families who have participated in Part C Early Intervention programs. Our goal is to hear from parents *in every state and community across the nation!*

This survey will only take a few moments of your time, and the information you provide will guide future training efforts for EI Professionals. A link to the online survey is below and available until April 16, 2014. If you have questions, contact Kim Travers at kntravers@windstream.net.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MB3WCWX>



The Early Intervention Family Alliance is a nation group of families dedicated to improving outcomes for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The EIFA works to ensure meaningful family involvement in the development of Part C policies and their implementation at community, state and federal levels. Visit <http://www.eifamilyalliance.org> to learn more.