



## ESSO WEEKLY MEMO –JULY 21, 2011

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### UPCOMING EVENTS, MEETINGS, OR TRAININGS

## 9. SAVE THE DATE

### Conference Calls to Review October 1, 2011 Updates to Early Steps Policy Handbook and Operations Guide

## INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

### 1. Announcement of *Count Me In: Resources for Early Childhood Inclusion*

(With 1 Attachment)

The members of the Florida Expanding Opportunities for Early Childhood Inclusion Professional Development Workgroup are excited to announce that ***Count Me In: Resources for Early Childhood Inclusion*** is now available online at:

<http://www.centraldirectory.org/uploads/ToolKitOnEarlyChildhoodInclusion.pdf>

The purpose of this compilation is to answer questions and provide general information to families and early learning providers on how to successfully include young children with disabilities in early childhood programs.

The workgroup would like your help in getting the word out about this exciting new resource. Please share the link and **attached formal announcement** with families and professionals with whom you have regular contact.

### 2. Early Steps Print Materials Update

If your LES ordered print versions of ~~the~~ new Early Steps Handouts we have been informed by Boyd Brothers Print shop that the orders have shipped. In addition to the handouts, all LES's were shipped a CD which contains copies of all the new materials which you can post and distribute electronically or print as needed.

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ESSO Management has decided that ~~the green Parent Handbook will be discontinued and~~ no longer printed. The decision was based on the belief that materials recently distributed as handouts for parents cover what parents need to know about Early Steps at the exact time they need that information. They are easily printed and affordably distributed. We will continue to print and distribute our full-color tri-fold Early Steps brochure.

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### 3. Provider General Handbook - Notice of Workshop in Tallahassee, August 3

Provider Type(s): All

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The notice of workshop for the Florida Medicaid Provider General Coverage and Limitations Handbook was published in Volume 37, Number 27 issue of the FAW Friday, July 8, 2011. The workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, August 3, 2011 from 9:00am – 11:00am at the Agency for Health Care Administration, 2727 Mahan Dr., Building 3, Tallahassee, FL.

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There will NOT be a phone call-in number available.

As part of the workshop, comment is invited on the possible regulatory impact (any added costs to small business to implement the provisions of the rule as noticed in the FAW.) Click <http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/review/index.shtml> to download a draft copy of this rule for review. If you wish to submit comments by mail you may address them to: Agency for Health Care Administration, 2727 Mahan Dr., MS 20, Tallahassee, FL 32308 Attn: Maureen Barker.

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### 4. Therapy Services Web Page Updates

Provider Type(s): 83

The Medicaid Therapy Services Web page has been updated with the following additions:

- \*New\* June 24, 2011 Therapy Services Forum Summary
- \*New\* [Therapy] Plan of Care Form (Excel Version)
- \*New\* eQHealth Tips for Prior Authorization Preparation
- \*New\* Augmentative and Alternative Communication Systems Evaluation Training
- \*New\* School Certified Match Program Therapy Overview

The Medicaid Therapy Services Web page can be viewed at the following address: <http://ahca.myflorida.com/therapy>.

### 5. Home Health Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook Public Hearing in Tallahassee, July 18, 2011

Provider Type(s): 24, 65, 70 and 83

The notice of public hearing for the **Home Health Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook** was published in Volume 37, Number 25 issue of the FAW

Friday, June 24, 2011. The public hearing ~~was~~ scheduled for ~~Monday, July 18, 2011~~ from 9:00am - Noon in **Tallahassee, FL** at the Agency for Health Care Administration, 2727 Mahan Dr., Building 3, Conference A, Tallahassee, FL. **There will NOT be a phone call-in number available.**

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As part of ~~the~~ public hearing ~~comment~~ ~~is invited~~ on the possible regulatory impact (any added costs to small business to implement the provisions of the rule as noticed in the FAW.) Click <http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/review/index.shtml> to download a draft copy of this rule for review. If you have comments, please send them by email to Claire Davis at [Claire.Davis@ahca.myflorida.com](mailto:Claire.Davis@ahca.myflorida.com) or you may mail your comments to: Agency for Health Care Administration, 2727 Mahan Dr., MS 20, Tallahassee, FL 32308 attn: Claire Davis

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## **6. Home Health Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook Public Hearing in Tampa, July 26, 2011**

Provider Type(s): 24, 65, 70, and 83

The notice of public hearing for the Home Health Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook was published in Volume 37, Number 27 issue of the FAW Friday, July 8, 2011. The public hearing is scheduled for ~~Tuesday, July 26, 2011 from 9:00am – 11:00am in Tampa, FL~~ at the Agency for Health Care Administration Area Office, Main Training Room, 6800 North Dale Mabry Highway, Suite 200, Tampa, FL. **There will NOT be a phone call-in number available.**

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As part of ~~the~~ public hearing ~~comment~~ ~~is invited~~ on the possible regulatory impact (any added costs to small business to implement the provisions of the rule as noticed in the FAW.) Click <http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/review/index.shtml> to download a draft copy of this rule for review. If you have comments, please send them by email to Claire Davis at [Claire.Davis@ahca.myflorida.com](mailto:Claire.Davis@ahca.myflorida.com) or you may mail your comments to: Agency for Health Care Administration, 2727 Mahan Dr., MS 20, Tallahassee, FL 32308 Attn: Claire Davis

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## **7. Disposition code "C" (DEI-only child identified as potentially eligible for Part C)**

As a result of the Phase III - Enrollment Table Enhancements implementation, a new disposition code "C" with a definition of "DEI-only child identified as potentially eligible for Part C." has been created. This code is to be used when a DEI-only child is suspected or actually determined to be eligible for Part C. This will prompt for a new enrollment record which will show the child as DEI and Part C. [If the child is confirmed as eligible for Part C and a full IFSP is developed, the Part C IFSP event from the IFSP table should be entered. If the child is found not eligible for Part C, then the Part C enrollment record should be closed with a disposition code of N, and](#)

[another DEI enrollment record can be opened if the child will continue to be followed under the DEI component. Please review the PHOG for specific eligibility criteria for DEI versus Part C and call your Program Manager if you need additional clarification.](#)

## 8. Termination of Location Code "4" - School and New Location Code Descriptions

Location Code "4" School has been terminated as of 7/1/2011. Also, in order to make the Location Code Descriptions more understandable, they have been updated with the following descriptions:

| Code | Descriptor                              | Start Date | End Date | Definition   |
|------|---|------------|----------|--|
| 1    | Home                                    | 7/1/2000   |          | Child's Current Residence  |
| 2    | Early Steps Office                      | 7/1/2000   |          | Early Steps Office Locations (Including Home Office/Out posted Office)   |
| 5    | Child Care Facility (2)                 | 7/1/2000   |          | Child Care (where early care for typical children is provided - i.e. Early Head Start, Early Learning Classroom, Church or Sports Facility Nursery)                                    |
| 6    | Other Location (X)                      | 7/1/2000   |          | Other Location (X)   |
| 7    | Outpatient Clinic                       | 7/1/2000   |          | (Therapy office, hospital affiliated or not)   |
| 8    | Residential Facility                    | 7/1/2000   |          | Residential Facility   |
| 9    | Early Intervention Classroom            | 7/1/2000   |          | Classroom designed for children with special needs   |
| 3    | Hospital (Inpatient)                    | 7/1/2000   |          | Hospital (Inpatient)   |
| 4    | *School (Public School Site)            | 7/1/2000   | 7/1/2011 | Terminate use of this code effective 7/1/11 since there are now several options that might be available on a public school site, some of which would be considered NE, some would not. |
| A    | Provider Agency                         | 7/1/2000   |          | Local Early Steps provider location  |
| B    | Prescribed Ped Ext Care Facility (PPEC) | 7/1/2006   |          | Prescribed Ped Ext Care Facility (PPEC)  |
| C    | County Public Health Unit               | 7/1/2000   |          | County Health Department   |
| D    | CMS CLINIC                              | 7/1/2000   |          | CMS CLINIC   |
| F    | Family Child Care Home                  | 7/1/2000   |          | Child care provided in home other than the child's residence   |
| P    | Public Place                            | 7/1/2004   |          | Parent workplace, park, grocery store, beach, general community agency, etc.   |

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

### **9. SAVE THE DATE**

#### **Conference Calls to Review October 1, 2011 Updates to Early Steps Policy Handbook and Operations Guide (August 16 & 17, 2011)**

The Early Steps Policy Handbook and Operations Guide has been updated. On July 1, 2011, the Office of Special Education Programs in the U. S. Department of Education provided approval to implement the updated policies effective October 1, 2011. The updated policy documents will be posted for your review by the beginning of August 2011. The Early Steps State Office has scheduled two conference calls to review the updates and provide the field with the opportunity to ask questions. Identical information will be presented during the two calls, so you will need to participate in only one call. Conference call dates are below. The call-in number and conference code will be sent to you soon.

**Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2011**

**Time: 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM Eastern Time**

**OR**

**Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2011**

**Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Eastern Time**