



ANNOUNCEMENT: EI-21 #02
Office of Child Development and Early Learning
Bureau of Early Intervention Services and
Family Supports

ISSUE DATE: 6/22/2021

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2021

SUBJECT: 2021/2022 Rate Increase Distribution Plan for Infant Toddler - Early Intervention

TO: Infant/Toddler - Early Intervention Leadership

FROM: Tracey Campanini *Tracey Campanini*
Deputy Secretary, Office of Child Development and Early Learning

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this announcement is to present the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) plan to distribute a 3% rate increase for Infant/Toddler Early Intervention services due to funding available as a result of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

BACKGROUND:

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) provides a temporary increase to the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) for certain Medicaid expenditures for home and community-based services (HCBS). Additionally, the ARP appropriated funding for IDEA programs, specifically for programs for infants and toddlers with disabilities under Part C. The funding must be used to enhance, expand, or strengthen IDEA and HCBS services.

OCDEL plans to use the combined federal funds (ARP- IDEA Part C & HCBS FMAP increase) to support a 3% rate increase across all rates for Infant/Toddler Early Intervention services. This will also allow all providers of Early Intervention services, including Service Coordination, to receive the 3% rate increase for services. OCDEL anticipates that the 3% rate increase will be supported by these two federal increases through March 2024. This 3% increase is time limited and will end. The rates may return to previous state-set rates.

DISCUSSION:

The 3% rate increase will be effective for dates of service as of July 1, 2021. An updated Early Intervention Fee Schedule is attached to this announcement and OCDEL will update the rate tables in PROMISE to reflect the increased rates.

Special Instruction Vision and Special Instruction Hearing are included in the 3% rate increase. The 3% will be added to the Special Instruction Vision and Special Instruction Hearing current negotiated rates for fiscal year 2021-22.

Infant/Toddler Early Intervention Programs are responsible for monitoring providers to ensure contracted providers are submitting claims for eligible services that are delivered by qualified professionals. This responsibility includes confirming procedures are in place to ensure the appropriate use of funds that meet federal, state, and local requirements.

NEXT STEPS:

1. OCDEL will coordinate the rate changes in HCSIS/PELICAN-EI.
2. Infant/Toddler Early Intervention leadership shall utilize the enclosed Early Intervention Fee Schedule for services delivered in fiscal year 2021-22.
3. Questions can be directed to the Office of Child Development and Early Learning, Bureau of Early Intervention Services and Family Supports at ra-ocdintervention@pa.gov

Enclosure