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OCTOBER 2018

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**MEDALLION 4.0 REMINDER**



When children with Medicaid transition to Medallion 4 and anytime their MCO changes, a new assignment of benefits with the name of the MCO must be completed and signed. This is also a requirement for children with CCC Plus. The third page of the cost share or an agency form can be used.

**"2019 OPEN ENROLLMENT IMPORTANT DATES FOR MEDALLION 4.0"**



Medallion 4.0 Region	Letter Sent	Enrollments Period	Initial Effective Month
Tidewater	1/20/2019	February and March	April
Central	3/20/2019	April and May	June
Northern/ Winchester	5/20/2019	June and July	August
Western/ Charlottesville	7/20/2019	August and September	October
Southwest	11/20/2019	December and January	February
Roanoke/ Alleghany	11/20/2019	December and January	February

## STATE SYSTEMIC IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SSIP)

During the September 25th statewide meeting of local system managers and state staff, we took some time to celebrate our state and local-level successes in implementing coaching and natural learning environment practices. It was inspiring to listen as local system managers each shared a local success story. Whether the story was about providers' efforts to learn more about or practice new skills in these evidence-based practices or about how these practices have positively impacted a specific child and family, each success was the result of the great work that happens in local systems every day. We appreciate all that you do to support infants, toddlers and their families and the many ways that you are supporting each other to learn and use coaching and natural learning environment practices.

As a reminder, all SSIP-related materials are posted to the SSIP section of our website at <http://www.infantva.org/Sup-SSIP.htm>. If you have questions about the SSIP, please contact Kyla Patterson at [k.patterson@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:k.patterson@dbhds.virginia.gov).

### "THE LEADER IN ME SERIES"

As you know, this series explores leadership principles that may help you in your unique leadership role whether you are a service coordinator, a provider or a local system manager. You don't have to have the most credentials or the loftiest titles to make a difference in the lives of young children and families. **They're people like you who lead from the middle.**

*"Stay Tuned for Next Month's Article"*

### PROVIDER IMPLEMENTATION SURVEY COMING SOON!

As part of our State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP), Virginia is implementing an annual Provider Implementation Survey. **The third annual survey will be coming in October.** By completing the survey, you will help the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia:

- Understand how evidence-based practices are being used in Virginia;
- Ensure you have the resources and supports you need to implement these practices; and
- Evaluate our statewide improvement efforts to improve outcomes for infants, toddlers and their families.

Higher provider participation will yield more complete and helpful data for use at the state and local level, allowing us to invest future time and effort into activities and supports that providers find helpful and set aside any that are not effective. In order to emphasize the value of provider participation in this survey, those who complete the survey will receive **½-hour of professional development credit** toward the 30 hours required for renewing your early intervention certification.

**All survey responses are confidential** and no information that could identify you will be linked to your individual responses or shared publicly or with any directors, supervisors, the local system manager, or other personnel in your local early intervention system or your program/agency.

### PRACTICE MANUAL REVISIONS:

Revisions have been made in five Practice Manual chapters. Those revised chapters will soon be posted to the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia website ([www.infantva.org](http://www.infantva.org)). Changes include the following:

- Chapter 3, page 6 - Clarified the late referral timeline that allows the local early intervention system to refer the child directly to the local school division to avoid confusion with federal regulations and timelines detailed elsewhere in the practice manual.
- Chapter 6, page 7 - Specified expectations associated with required use of the Decision Tree.
- Chapter 7, Instructions for Completing the IFSP, Section VII - Moved details regarding transition activities to Chapter 8
- Chapter 8
  - Pages 26 - 36: Combined transition information from Chapters 7 and 8
  - Page 37 - 38: Specified expectations associated with required use of the Decision Tree at exit

- o Page 43: Added the timelines to follow if a child's EI benefit is dropped in the Medicaid VaMMIS system, consistent with what is already specified in Section 3.1.3 of the Local Contract
- o Chapter 11, pages 8, 30-31 - Added the timelines to follow if a child's EI benefit is dropped in the Medicaid VaMMIS system, consistent with what is already specified in Section 3.1.3 of the Local Contract.

The Version Control Table at <http://www.infantva.org/Pr-PracticeManual-Forms.htm> also will be updated with links to Track Changes versions of each chapter (showing what changed) and a list of pages that will need to be reprinted in order to update any printed copy of the manual.

## THE DECISION TREE

In Virginia, we have long recommended use of the Decision Tree to assist in determining child outcome ratings. **Virginia is now requiring use of the Decision Tree when determining initial, annual and exit ratings.** Feedback from the Provider Implementation Survey and the MEISR pilot indicate that the Decision Tree is a key tool in the effort to have accurate ratings and inter-rater reliability. Accurate child outcome data is essential for federal reporting, for state and local improvement planning and for assessing child progress over time. The Decision Tree is also a helpful tool in supporting active family engagement in the functional assessment and child outcome rating process. Since families are equal team members, it is appropriate and respectful that they are included in the process of team discussion and decisions about how their child's functioning in the three outcome areas compares to same age peers and that they can see the Decision Tree we're using to make that decision.

Revisions in Chapters 6 and 8 of the Practice Manual provide more information about the required use of the Decision Tree. We recognize that this will be a change for many assessment teams and that engaging families in this process may be more challenging and/or more uncomfortable in some situations than others. Given that one of the purposes of early intervention (see Chapter 1 of the Practice Manual) is to enable families to provide care for their children and that one of the family outcomes we measure is the extent to which early intervention helps families effectively communicate their children's needs, working through the initial learning curve and perhaps our own discomfort to fully engage families in using the decision tree with us is a worthwhile effort. There are a number of resources available now and coming soon to support assessment teams as they implement this new requirement for using the Decision Tree.

- A new State-required version of the Decision Tree with with guiding questions and with information for families on the reverse side is available at [https://www.veipd.org/main/pdf/decision\\_tree\\_child\\_outcome\\_discussion\\_8.29.18.pdf](https://www.veipd.org/main/pdf/decision_tree_child_outcome_discussion_8.29.18.pdf) In the coming days, the new decision tree also will be posted in place of the previous version on the [infantva.org](http://www.infantva.org) website.
- The nationally-developed COS Team Collaboration Toolkit, available at <http://olms.cte.jhu.edu/olms2/COSTC>, includes information about and videos illustrating ways to explain to and engage families in the outcome rating process using the Decision Tree.
- A short tutorial about using the Decision Tree is being developed at the state level and will be available soon.
- The November and December Talks on Tuesdays will focus on the Decision Tree and engaging families in the child outcome summary and rating process using the Decision Tree.

## CHILD AND FAMILY OUTCOMES INFORMATION SHEET



### Child and Family Outcomes Information Sheet at

<http://infantva.org/documents/Child%20and%20family%20results%202018.pdf>



## with families and stakeholders!

### ITOTS USERS

Please send requests for ITOTS logon assistance to the email address below.

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Type "ITOTS Password" in the Subject Line and tell them your username.

Or, click on the link below and type your request in the email that opens.

#### [ITOTS Password Help](#)

The above link will also be available on our website just below the link to ITOTS.

### EARLY INTERVENTION CERTIFIED PRACTITIONERS

#### **Have issues with your username or password for Early Intervention Certification?**

Please send requests for Early Intervention Certification logon assistance to the email address below.

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Type "EI Certification" in the subject line and tell them your username.

Or, click on the link below and type your request in the email that opens.

#### [Early Intervention Certification](#)

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**Note about This Update:**

This Update is prepared by the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia State Team at the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services as a means of sharing current information from the DBHDS/Part C Office.

**Enrollment of Children in the Medicaid Data System (VAMMIS)**

Please note the following contact information for questions about enrollment of children in the Medicaid Data System (VAMMIS).

- [Irene Scott](#) \* 804-786-4868
- [Sarah Moore](#) \*804-371-5208
- [Telisha Woodfin](#) \*804-786-1522

**Early Intervention Certification**

For questions about certification of practitioners, contact [Irene Scott](#) \* 804-786-4868

For questions related to completing the online application, contact [DBHDS Production Support@cov.virginia.gov](mailto:DBHDS.Production.Support@cov.virginia.gov)

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