New Early Intervention Providers

April 16, 2015
The Early Intervention Emergency Regulations allow two new provider groups:

- Behavior Analysts-certified through the Behavior Analyst Certification Board as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)
- Assistant Behavior Analysts-certified through the Behavior Analyst Certification Board as a Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst (BCaBA)
- They will be reimbursed in category 2
- Regulations were effective Dec. 29, 2014
Why were BCBAs & BCaBAs Added?

- Early Identification and Intervention are crucial to improve outcomes for infants & toddlers with Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Beginning services before age 3 is the optimal time to intervene
The language will be changed to conform it to Dept. of Health Professions regulations and DMAS regulations

- Behavior Analysts licensed by the Virginia Board of Medicine
- Assistant Behavior Analysts—licensed by the Virginia Board of Medicine
Categories of Eligible EI Professionals

- Counselors
- **Behavior Analysts (BCBA)**
- Educators
- Family and consumer science professionals
- Marriage and family therapists
- Music therapists
- Nurses
- Occupational therapists
- Orientation and mobility specialists
- Physical therapists
- Psychologists
- Social workers
- Speech-language pathologists
- Therapeutic recreation specialists
Categories of Eligible EI Specialists

• Assistant Behavior Analysts (BCaBA)
• Early intervention assistants whose qualifications have been approved by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services;
• Licensed social workers
• Certified nurse aides & LPNs
• Occupational therapy assistants
• Physical therapy assistants
New Services Are Not Added

- Assistive Technology
- Audiology
- Developmental Counseling
- Family Training
- Health
- Medical
- Nursing
- Nutrition
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Psychological
- Service Coordination
- Sign & Cued Language
- Social Work
- Speech-Language
- Transportation
- Vision
- Other
EI Practices Will Remain Consistent

• Parents are the Providers
• Natural Environments
• Routines Based Interventions
• Coaching Techniques
• Individualized Services
• BCBAs and BCaBAs must complete the same modules and sign the assurances that they will support the Virginia EI assurances
Things to Remember

• Registered Behavior Technicians (RBT) are not added to the allowed providers
• Autism services will be provided as Developmental Services for Early Intervention.
• BCBA providers are paid at the EI professional rate
• BCaBAs are paid at the EI Specialist rate
• LSMs can meet with new BCBAs and BCaBAs to reinforce EI principles and practices
• Choose the provider based on the best match of skills with the identified IFSP goals
More Things to Remember

• Applied Behavioral Analysis is more than Discrete Trials Training
• These practices are efficacious with toddlers*
  – Prompting
  – Naturalistic Intervention
  – Pivotal Response Training
  – Functional Behavior Assessment
  – Reinforcement
  – Video Modeling

*National Professional Development Center On ASD
http://asdtoddler.fpg.unc.edu/learning-modules
The BCBA and the BCaBA may be listed as providers of Developmental Services.

In some circumstances, the Autism services may be listed as “other” services and provided by non EI providers.
As of Feb. 2012, 31 states had Autism Insurance Coverage Mandates

- **States Mandating Coverage Of Autism Services**

- **States Considering Introducing Legislation To Mandate Coverage of Autism Services**
  - Delaware, Hawaii, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Carolina, and Utah.

- **States Pursuing Autism Insurance Reform**
  - Alabama, Georgia, Maryland, Ohio, Oregon, and Washington.
Resources

- ASD Toddler Initiative – [http://asdtoddler.fpg.unc.edu](http://asdtoddler.fpg.unc.edu)
  - From Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at UNC
- ASD page on the Early Intervention Professional Development Center's website ([http://www.veipd.org/main/sub_autism.html](http://www.veipd.org/main/sub_autism.html))
- CoPA website ([http://www.veipd.org/main/sub2_copa.html](http://www.veipd.org/main/sub2_copa.html)).