



Virginia Department of
Behavioral Health &
Developmental Services

New Early Intervention Providers

April 16, 2015

DBHDS Vision: A life of possibilities for all Virginians

New Regulations Add New Providers

- 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 BCBA's & BCaBA's 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

Permanent Regs will Slightly Change Language

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
- BCBA's and BCaBA's 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>

Autism Services on the ISFP

- 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**
- Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.
- **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>
 - From Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at UNC
- Supporting Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their Families Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia Guidance Document.
([http://www.veipd.org/main/pdf/landTCVA ASD-Jan%202012 FINAL 5-11-12.pdf](http://www.veipd.org/main/pdf/landTCVA_ASJJan%202012_FINAL_5-11-12.pdf))
- ASD page on the Early Intervention Professional Development Center's website
(http://www.veipd.org/main/sub_autism.html)
- CoPA website
(http://www.veipd.org/main/sub2_copa.html).