

(4) Early intervention services

The term “early intervention services” means developmental services that—

(A) are provided under public supervision;
 (B) are provided at no cost except where Federal or State law provides for a system of payments by families, including a schedule of sliding fees;

(C) are designed to meet the developmental needs of an infant or toddler with a disability, as identified by the individualized family service plan team, in any 1 or more of the following areas:

- (i) physical development;
- (ii) cognitive development;
- (iii) communication development;
- (iv) social or emotional development; or
- (v) adaptive development;

(D) meet the standards of the State in which the services are provided, including the requirements of this subchapter;

(E) include—

- (i) family training, counseling, and home visits;
- (ii) special instruction;
- (iii) speech-language pathology and audiology services, and sign language and cued language services;
- (iv) occupational therapy;
- (v) physical therapy;
- (vi) psychological services;
- (vii) service coordination services;
- (viii) medical services only for diagnostic or evaluation purposes;
- (ix) early identification, screening, and assessment services;
- (x) health services necessary to enable the infant or toddler to benefit from the other early intervention services;
- (xi) social work services;
- (xii) vision services;
- (xiii) assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; and
- (xiv) transportation and related costs that are necessary to enable an infant or toddler and the infant’s or toddler’s family to receive another service described in this paragraph;

(F) are provided by qualified personnel, including—

- (i) special educators;
- (ii) speech-language pathologists and audiologists;
- (iii) occupational therapists;
- (iv) physical therapists;
- (v) psychologists;
- (vi) social workers;
- (vii) nurses;
- (viii) registered dietitians;
- (ix) family therapists;
- (x) vision specialists, including ophthalmologists and optometrists;
- (xi) orientation and mobility specialists; and
- (xii) pediatricians and other physicians;

(G) to the maximum extent appropriate, are provided in natural environments, including the home, and community settings in which children without disabilities participate; and

(H) are provided in conformity with an individualized family service plan adopted in accordance with section 1436 of this title.

(5) Infant or toddler with a disability

The term “infant or toddler with a disability”—

(A) means an individual under 3 years of age who needs early intervention services because the individual—

(i) is experiencing developmental delays, as measured by appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures in 1 or more of the areas of cognitive development, physical development, communication development, social or emotional development, and adaptive development; or

(ii) has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay; and

(B) may also include, at a State’s discretion—

(i) at-risk infants and toddlers; and

(ii) children with disabilities who are eligible for services under section 1419 of this title and who previously received services under this subchapter until such children enter, or are eligible under State law to enter, kindergarten or elementary school, as appropriate, provided that any programs under this subchapter serving such children shall include—

(I) an educational component that promotes school readiness and incorporates pre-literacy, language, and numeracy skills; and

(II) a written notification to parents of their rights and responsibilities in determining whether their child will continue to receive services under this subchapter or participate in preschool programs under section 1419 of this title.

(Pub. L. 91-230, title VI, §632, as added Pub. L. 108-446, title I, §101, Dec. 3, 2004, 118 Stat. 2744.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1432, Pub. L. 91-230, title VI, §632, as added Pub. L. 105-17, title I, §101, June 4, 1997, 111 Stat. 106, set out definitions for this subchapter, prior to the general amendment of subchapters I to IV of this chapter by Pub. L. 108-446.

Another prior section 1432, Pub. L. 91-230, title VI, §632, Apr. 13, 1970, 84 Stat. 184; Pub. L. 98-199, §§3(b), 11, Dec. 2, 1983, 97 Stat. 1358, 1371; Pub. L. 99-457, title III, §309, Oct. 8, 1986, 100 Stat. 1168; Pub. L. 100-630, title I, §104(c), Nov. 7, 1988, 102 Stat. 3298; Pub. L. 101-476, title IV, §402, title IX, §901(b)(143), Oct. 30, 1990, 104 Stat. 1132, 1148; Pub. L. 102-119, §25(b), Oct. 7, 1991, 105 Stat. 607, related to grants to State educational agencies and institutions for traineeships, prior to the general amendment of subchapters I to IV of this chapter by Pub. L. 105-17.

§ 1433. General authority

The Secretary shall, in accordance with this subchapter, make grants to States (from their allotments under section 1443 of this title) to assist each State to maintain and implement a statewide, comprehensive, coordinated, multidisciplinary, interagency system to provide early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

(Pub. L. 91-230, title VI, §633, as added Pub. L. 108-446, title I, §101, Dec. 3, 2004, 118 Stat. 2746.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1433, Pub. L. 91-230, title VI, §633, as added Pub. L. 105-17, title I, §101, June 4, 1997, 111 Stat. 108, related to the general authority of the Secretary, prior to the general amendment of subchapters I to IV of this chapter by Pub. L. 108-446.

Another prior section 1433, Pub. L. 91-230, title VI, §633, Apr. 13, 1970, 84 Stat. 184; Pub. L. 98-199, §§3(b), 11, Dec. 2, 1983, 97 Stat. 1358, 1371; Pub. L. 99-457, title III, §310, Oct. 8, 1986, 100 Stat. 1168; Pub. L. 100-630, title I, §104(e), Nov. 7, 1988, 102 Stat. 3299; Pub. L. 101-476, title IV, §403, title IX, §901(b)(144), Oct. 30, 1990, 104 Stat. 1133, 1149; Pub. L. 102-119, §25(b), Oct. 7, 1991, 105 Stat. 607, related to establishment of national clearing-houses, prior to the general amendment of subchapters I to IV of this chapter by Pub. L. 105-17.

§ 1434. Eligibility

In order to be eligible for a grant under section 1433 of this title, a State shall provide assurances to the Secretary that the State—

(1) has adopted a policy that appropriate early intervention services are available to all infants and toddlers with disabilities in the State and their families, including Indian infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families residing on a reservation geographically located in the State, infants and toddlers with disabilities who are homeless children and their families, and infants and toddlers with disabilities who are wards of the State; and

(2) has in effect a statewide system that meets the requirements of section 1435 of this title.

(Pub. L. 91-230, title VI, §634, as added Pub. L. 108-446, title I, §101, Dec. 3, 2004, 118 Stat. 2746.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1434, Pub. L. 91-230, title VI, §634, as added Pub. L. 105-17, title I, §101, June 4, 1997, 111 Stat. 108, related to grant eligibility, prior to the general amendment of subchapters I to IV of this chapter by Pub. L. 108-446.

Another prior section 1434, Pub. L. 91-230, title VI, §634, Apr. 13, 1970, 84 Stat. 185; Pub. L. 98-199, §§3(b), 11, Dec. 2, 1983, 97 Stat. 1358, 1372; Pub. L. 101-476, title IV, §404, Oct. 30, 1990, 104 Stat. 1135; Pub. L. 102-119, §9(c)(1), Oct. 7, 1991, 105 Stat. 595, related to reports to Secretary by recipients of grants and contracts, prior to the general amendment of subchapters I to IV of this chapter by Pub. L. 105-17.

§ 1435. Requirements for statewide system

(a) In general

A statewide system described in section 1433 of this title shall include, at a minimum, the following components:

(1) A rigorous definition of the term “developmental delay” that will be used by the State in carrying out programs under this subchapter in order to appropriately identify infants and toddlers with disabilities that are in need of services under this subchapter.

(2) A State policy that is in effect and that ensures that appropriate early intervention services based on scientifically based research, to the extent practicable, are available to all infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families, including Indian infants and toddlers

with disabilities and their families residing on a reservation geographically located in the State and infants and toddlers with disabilities who are homeless children and their families.

(3) A timely, comprehensive, multidisciplinary evaluation of the functioning of each infant or toddler with a disability in the State, and a family-directed identification of the needs of each family of such an infant or toddler, to assist appropriately in the development of the infant or toddler.

(4) For each infant or toddler with a disability in the State, an individualized family service plan in accordance with section 1436 of this title, including service coordination services in accordance with such service plan.

(5) A comprehensive child find system, consistent with subchapter II, including a system for making referrals to service providers that includes timelines and provides for participation by primary referral sources and that ensures rigorous standards for appropriately identifying infants and toddlers with disabilities for services under this subchapter that will reduce the need for future services.

(6) A public awareness program focusing on early identification of infants and toddlers with disabilities, including the preparation and dissemination by the lead agency designated or established under paragraph (10) to all primary referral sources, especially hospitals and physicians, of information to be given to parents, especially to inform parents with premature infants, or infants with other physical risk factors associated with learning or developmental complications, on the availability of early intervention services under this subchapter and of services under section 1419 of this title, and procedures for assisting such sources in disseminating such information to parents of infants and toddlers with disabilities.

(7) A central directory that includes information on early intervention services, resources, and experts available in the State and research and demonstration projects being conducted in the State.

(8) A comprehensive system of personnel development, including the training of paraprofessionals and the training of primary referral sources with respect to the basic components of early intervention services available in the State that—

(A) shall include—

(i) implementing innovative strategies and activities for the recruitment and retention of early education service providers;

(ii) promoting the preparation of early intervention providers who are fully and appropriately qualified to provide early intervention services under this subchapter; and

(iii) training personnel to coordinate transition services for infants and toddlers served under this subchapter from a program providing early intervention services under this subchapter and under subchapter II (other than section 1419 of this title), to a preschool program receiving