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**CHAPTER 20: EPSDT HEALTH AND IDEA – RELATED SERVICES**

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**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

The Department of Health and Hospitals requires that all EPSDT Health Services for Children with Disabilities providers enrolled in Medicaid give the following statement in writing to each Medicaid-eligible recipient and/or caregiver at the time the individualized education program (IEP), individualized family services plan (IFSP) or individual health plan (IHP) is developed.

If your child is Medicaid eligible and is eligible to receive the following:

- Audiological services;
- Occupational therapy evaluations and treatment services;
- Physical therapy evaluations and therapy;
- Speech and language evaluations and therapy;
- Psychological evaluations and therapy; and
- Nursing services.

Services may be obtained either through the school, EarlySteps, or another Medicaid enrolled provider of these services.

**Children who do not qualify for these services for educational or early intervention purposes may still be eligible for them through Medicaid. Services provided outside of the IDEA Part B and Part C programs must be ordered by a physician. Once the services are ordered by a physician, the service provider must request approval from Medicaid. To locate a provider other than the school or early intervention provider, please contact your support coordinator, physician, or call the Healthy Louisiana Hotline (see Appendix E).**

EPSDT Health Services program requirements for reimbursement are:

- All services must be furnished through a child's IEP or an infant or toddler's IFSP or IHP for nursing services. Only services provided through an IEP, IFSP, or IHP may be billed to Medicaid under the EPSDT's Health and IDEA-Related Services program.
- If providing early intervention services to infants and toddlers, use the approved IFSP form found in Appendix D. No other form is allowable.
- Only local education agencies are eligible to enroll for children ages three and above.

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- Early intervention providers enroll directly with Medicaid as providers of these services for infants and toddlers under age three. These services must be coordinated with other age appropriate preventive health services, including screenings and immunizations with Healthy Louisiana.
- These EPSDT services must also be coordinated with the Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and Head Start Program. Age appropriate referrals are needed for these services.
- Professional staff must be qualified to provide the services that meet state and Medicaid practitioner standards regarding certification, licensure, and supervision. Documentation of staff qualifications must be provided to Medicaid as part of the enrollment and monitoring process. Refer to Section 20.1 of this manual chapter for applicable qualifications.
- A written referral or prescription must be obtained from a licensed physician to furnish occupational therapy. This must be done at least annually. The written referral or prescription is not required to conduct an initial evaluation.
- For LEAs, Medicaid collections from these services should be spent on the provision of health related services to children regardless of their Medicaid status.
- Expenditures should be prioritized for expanding service delivery through additional employed or contracted staff before allocating funds for equipment and supplies, administrative support activities, capital improvements, or meeting the individual needs of children with disabilities.
- Medicaid funds should not be used for strictly educational or non-medical purposes.