| SUBCHAPTER | Previous Rule | Amended Rule | Reason/Intended Effect |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Subchapter A. General Rules. | N/A | §108.102.Legal Authority. The following statutes and regulations authorize or require the rules in this subchapter: (1) Texas Human Resources Code, Chapter 73; (2) Texas Human Resources Code, Chapter 117; (3) the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C (20 USC §§1431 - 1444); and (4) implementing federal regulations 34 CFR Part 303. | DARS prefers for each subsection to have a stated legal authority that requires or authorizes the rules outlined in the subsection. |
| | 108.103 Definitions (2) Child—An infant or toddler as defined in 34 CFR §303.21 | 108.103 Definitions (2) ChildAn infant or toddler, from birth through 35 months, as defined in 34 CFR §303.21. | The addition to the definition is intended to reduce ambiguity. |

| (5) Comprehensive Needs AssessmentThe process for identifying a child's unique strengths and needs, and the family's resources, concerns, and priorities in order to develop an IFSP. The comprehensive assessment process gathers information across developmental domains regarding the child's abilities to participate in the everyday routines and activities of the family. | (5) Comprehensive Needs Assessment Conducted by an interdisciplinary team, the process for identifying a child's unique strengths and needs, and the family's resources, concerns, and priorities in order to develop an IFSP. The comprehensive assessment process gathers information across developmental domains regarding the child's abilities to participate in the everyday routines and activities of the family. | The addition to the definition is intended to clarify who provides the comprehensive needs assessment. |
|---|--|---|
| (9) Co-visitsWhen two or more service providers deliver different services to the child during the same period of time. | 9) Co-visitsWhen two or more service providers deliver different services to the child during the same period of time. Co-visits are provided when a child will receive greater benefit from services being provided at the same time, rather than individually. | The addition to the definition provides guidance on when co-visits should be planned and delivered. |
| (10) DaysCalendar days | (10) DaysCalendar days, except for LEA services which are defined as "school days". | The addition clarifies the LEA's definition of days and that it is different from ECI's definition. |
| 21) Group ServicesEarly childhood intervention services provided at the same time to multiple non-related children and their parents or routine caregivers. | (21) Group ServicesEarly childhood intervention services provided at the same time to <u>up to four</u> [multiple] non-related children and their parents or routine caregivers to meet the developmental needs of the individual infant or toddler. | The addition provides specific guidance for the size of the group. This language is not a new requirement because the group size limitation is currently stated in the SST rule (§108.501). Furthermore, the additional |

| (24) IFSP TeamAn interdisciplinary team that meets the requirements in 3 CFR §303.24(b) (relating to Multidisciplinary), and develops, reviews, modifies, and approves the IFSP and includes the parent, the servicoordinator, all ECI professionals providing services to the child, as planned on the IFSP, certified Teachers of the Deaf and Hof Hearing, as appropriate, a certified Teachers of Studen with Visual Impairments, as appropriate. | collaboratively to develop, review, modify, and approve [, and develops, reviews, modifies, and approves] the IFSP and includes the parent; the service coordinator, all ECI professionals providing services to the child, as planned on the IFSP, certified Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, as appropriate, and certified Teachers of Students with Visual Impairments, as appropriate. | language that group services must meet the developmental needs of the individual infant and toddler is a reflection of the requirements for all planned ECI services. The addition emphasizes that the IFSP team should be working collaboratively. This collaboration will result in more effective services for children and families. |
|---|---|---|
| (25) Interdisciplinary Team-addition to the definition of multidisciplinary team as defined in 34 CFR §303.24 (relating to Multidisciplinary) team that consists of at leas two ECI professionals from different disciplines. | definition of multidisciplinary team as defined in 34 CFR §303.24 (relating to Multidisciplinary), a team that consists of at least two ECI professionals from different disciplines and the | The addition to the definition is a reflection of the additional requirement in the Evaluation and Assessment subsection that states an LPHA must be one of the two professionals on an evaluation team. LPHAs |

infant and toddler development and have previously been developmental delay and work collaboratively to required for all IFSP conduct evaluation, assessment, IFSP teams. The intent of this development and to provide intervention. requirement and the language that emphasizes the collaborative nature of the work of the interdisciplinary team will support staff in providing high quality services for children and families. In addition, the statement about LEA staff provides clarification that they may be considered a team member. (27) LPHA--Licensed Practitioner of the Healing Licensed Specialist in (27) LPHA--Licensed School Psychology was Arts. A licensed physician, registered nurse, Practitioner of the Healing Arts. licensed physical therapist, licensed occupational removed as an LPHA A licensed physician, registered therapist, licensed speech language pathologist, because the LSSP scope nurse, licensed physical licensed professional counselor, licensed clinical of practice does not therapist, licensed occupational social worker, licensed psychologist, licensed include the ECI service therapist, licensed speech dietitian, licensed audiologist, licensed physician language pathologist, licensed setting of the natural assistant, [licensed specialist in school environment. The professional counselor. addition of "registered" to psychology, licensed marriage and family licensed clinical social worker. therapist, licensed intern in speech language "advanced practice nurse" licensed psychologist, licensed pathology, or advanced practice registered nurse reflects the current title of dietitian, licensed audiologist, who is an employee or a subcontractor of an ECI that profession. licensed physician assistant, Program. LPHA responsibilities are further The requirement that an licensed specialist in school described in §108.312 of this title (relating to LPHA be an employee or psychology, licensed marriage Licensed Practitioner of the Healing Arts (LPHA)). subcontractor of the ECI and family therapist. licensed program was added intern in speech language because the ECI pathology, or advanced

| | (29) Natural EnvironmentsAs defined in 34 CFR §303.26, settings that are natural or typical for a same-aged infant or toddler without a disability, may include the home or community settings, and must be consistent with the provisions of 34 CFR §303.126. | (29) Natural EnvironmentsAs defined in 34 CFR §303.26, settings that are natural or typical for a same-aged infant or toddler without a disability, may include the home or community settings, includes the daily activities of the child and family or caregiver, and must be consistent with the provisions of 34 CFR §303.126. | contractor's responsibility for compliance to the Medicaid state plan (for ECI services) cannot be delegated to another individual or entity. The definition of natural environments is expanded to emphasize the importance of both the place of early intervention service and the focus of the service. This is not a new requirement because the concept of addressing daily activities is currently reflected in the IFSP and Service Delivery subsections. |
|----------------------------|--|--|---|
| | N/A | (36) Qualifying Medical DiagnosisA medically diagnosed condition that has a high probability of developmental delay. The list of conditions that automatically qualify a child for ECI services is available at http://www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/resources/diagnoses.asp. Because of the addition of the qualifying medical | This new definition clarifies what is meant by "qualifying medical diagnosis" Number change only |
| | | diagnosis definition, the numbers for the rest of the definitions have changed (37 – 41). | |
| Subchapter B. Procedural | §108.219 The contractor is responsible for distributing the DARS ECL | §108.219 <u>During pre-enrollment, the contractor must give</u> | This rule clarifies that the contractor must not only |
| Safeguards and Due Process | for distributing the DARS ECI family rights publication to all | the family a copy of the DARS ECI Parent Handbook publication, which contains notice that | explain the Parent Rights Handbook during pre- |

| Procedures. | parents and explaining | fully informs the parent about their confidentiality | enrollment, but also |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| | requirements related to | rights as specified in 34 CFR §303.402. The | explain it again annually. |
| | confidentiality and procedural | contractor must explain the contents of the DARS | The annual explanation |
| | safeguards. | ECI Parent Handbook when initially providing the | helps families know their |
| | | publication to the family and annually thereafter. | rights, reminds them how |
| | | | to advocate for themselves |
| | | | if they have a concern or |
| | | | complaint, and helps them |
| | | | fully understand their role |
| | | | and responsibilities during |
| | | | ECI activities. This |
| | | | additional requirement is |
| | | | not intended to mean the |
| | | | program must provide |
| | | | every family with a new |
| | | | Parent Handbook at the |
| | | | annual IFSP. |
| | §108.233 (b) (5) | §108.233 (b) (5) | This change extends the |
| | (b) A contractor may request | (b) A contractor may request that the parent | expiration date of the |
| | that the parent provide a | provide a release to share information with others | parental consent to release |
| | release to share information | for legitimate purposes. However, when such a | information for billing |
| | with others for legitimate | release is sought: | purposes to match the |
| | purposes. However, when such | (5) the consent to release information form must | agency's record retention |
| | a release is sought: | have a time limit: [the release must be time- | policy. This change allows |
| | 5) the release must be time- | limited not to exceed one year; and] | programs to respond to a |
| | limited not to exceed one year; | (A) not to exceed five years after the child exits | third party billing inquiry |
| | | services or other applicable record retention | after the child exits from |
| | | period, as described in §108.221 of this title | services. |
| | | (relating to Records Management) for billing | |
| | | records; or | |
| | | (B) not to exceed one year for all other consents | |
| | | to release information: | |

| Subchapter C. Staff Qualifications. | N/A | §108.301.Purpose. The purpose of this subchapter is to establish requirements related to ECI staff qualifications. | DARS prefers for each subsection to have a stated purpose. |
|---|----------------------------|---|---|
| | N/A | §108.302.Legal Authority. The following statutes and regulations authorize or require the rules in this subchapter: (1) Texas Human Resources Code, Chapter 73; (2) Texas Human Resources Code, Chapter 117; (3) the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C (20 USC §§1431 - 1444); and (4) implementing federal regulations 34 CFR Part | DARS prefers for each subsection to have a stated legal authority that requires or authorizes the rules outlined in the subsection. |
| | 108.803 Definitions N/A | 303. 108.803 Definitions (6) Individualized Professional Development Plan (IPDP)The training and technical assistance plan developed when a staff person begins employment at an ECI program. The IPDP can include but is not limited to orientation training, EIS credentialing activities, service coordination training, and other training or professional development required by the program or DARS ECI. | The definition was added for clarity. The IPDP is referenced in other rules in this subsection. |
| | N/A | Because of the addition of the IPDP definition, the numbers for the rest of the definitions have changed (7-9). | Number change only |

108.309 (b)

(1) complete orientation training as required by DARS ECI.

108.309

- (d) The contractor must verify that all newly employed staff:
- (1) are qualified in terms of education and experience for their assigned scopes of responsibilities;
- (2) are competent to perform the job-related activities before providing early childhood intervention services; and(3) complete orientation training
- (3) complete orientation training as required by DARS ECI before providing early childhood intervention services.

108.309 (e)

(1) All staff members who work directly with children and families must receive supervision oversight including documented consultation, record review, and observation from a qualified supervisor. Supervisor qualifications are further described in this subchapter in §§108.313(c), 108.315(c), and 108.317(c) of this title (relating to Early

108.309 (b)

(1) complete orientation training as required by DARS ECI. This requirement does not apply to staff employed by the LEA;

108.309

- (d) The contractor must verify that all newly employed staff, except staff employed by the LEA:
- (1) are qualified in terms of education and experience for their assigned scopes of responsibilities;
- (2) are competent to perform the job-related activities before providing early childhood intervention services; and
- (3) complete orientation training as required by DARS ECI before providing early childhood intervention services.

108.309 (e)

(1) All staff members who work directly with children and families must receive supervision oversight that consists of [including] documented consultation, record review, and observation from a qualified supervisor. The intent of supervision is to provide oversight and direction to staff. Supervisor qualifications are further described in this subchapter in §§108.313(c), 108.315(c), and 108.317(c) of this title (relating to Early Intervention Specialist (EIS), Service Coordinator and Staff Who Do Not Hold a License or EIS Credential and Provide Early Childhood

These additions provide clarification that LEA staff do not need to complete the Orientation to ECI training and ECI contractors do not need to complete new employment verification for LEA staff.

This addition was included to clarify the components of supervision. It is not intended that every supervision visit must include a consultation, a record review and an observation. Rather, a supervision event should include at least one of these activities and the activities should vary. The amount of supervision required for each type of

| <u></u> | | |
|---|---|--|
| Intervention Specialist (EIS), Service Coordinator and Staff Who Do Not Hold a License or EIS Credential and Provide Early Childhood Intervention Services to Children and Families). (A) Documented consultation includes evaluation and development of staff knowledge, skills, and abilities, and case-specific problem solving. (B) Record review includes a review of documentation in child records to evaluate compliance with the | Intervention Services to Children and Families). (A) Documented consultation consists of [includes] evaluation and development of staff knowledge, skills, and abilities in the context of [nand] case-specific problem solving. (B) Record review includes a review of documentation in child records to evaluate compliance with the requirements of this chapter, and quality, accuracy, and timeliness of documentation. It also includes feedback to staff to identify areas of strength and areas that need improvement. (C) Observation includes watching staff interactions with children and families to provide guidance and feedback about the observation. | staff member is documented in the ECI contract. |
| requirements of this chapter, and quality, accuracy, and timeliness of documentation. | and recasion asout the osservation. | |
| (C) Observation includes watching staff interactions with children and families to provide guidance and feedback. | | |
| N/A | §108.312.Licensed Practitioner of the Healing Arts (LPHA). | This rule was developed in response to a request from ECI program directors to |
| | (a) The LPHA provides necessary clinical knowledge for the IFSP team to plan and implement individualized, goal oriented services | clarify the role of the LPHA. It provides guidance to both the LPHA |

| | | within an interdisciplinary approach. (b) The LPHA's responsibility is to document the child's progress towards the IFSP outcomes, recommend to the team modifications to the plan | and other team members about the LPHA responsibilities on the IFSP team. In addition, it ensures ECI contractor |
|--|--|---|---|
| | | as needed, and provide re-assessments or | compliance with the |
| | | ongoing therapy services as planned on the IFSP. | Medicaid state plan (for |
| | | | ECI services). |
| | | (c) A LPHA is required to sign the IFSP and in | |
| | | doing so acknowledges the planned services are | |
| | | reasonable and necessary. | |
| | | (d) The LPHA provides ongoing monitoring of the | |
| | | IFSP, at least once every six months, to provide | |
| | | professional opinion as to the effectiveness of | |
| | | services. | |
| | 108.313 | 108.313 | The rule was reorganized |
| | (d) EIS Active Status and EIS | (d) Requirements for EIS active status [Active | to improve clarity. In |
| | Inactive Status. | Status and EIS inactive status are as follows: | addition, timelines for the |
| | (1) Only an EIS with active | [Inactive Status.] | completion of required EIS |
| | status is allowed to provide | (4) O. I | trainings were added. EISs |
| | early childhood intervention | (1) Only an EIS with active status is allowed to | did have timelines for |
| | services to children and | provide early childhood intervention services to | completing credentialing |
| | families. An EIS goes on | children and families. An EIS on inactive status | activities prior to |
| | inactive status when the EIS | may not perform activities requiring the EIS active | September 2011. When |
| | fails to submit the required | status. | the required timelines were removed, some EISs were |
| | documentation by the designated deadline or when | (2) An EIS goes on inactive status when: | not completing the |
| | the EIS is no longer employed | Z All Els goes on mactive status when. | required training activities |
| | by a contractor. An EIS on | (A) the EIS fails to submit the required | within a reasonable time |
| | inactive status may not perform | (A) the EIS fails to submit the required documentation by the designated deadline [er | frame (incomplete |
| | activities requiring the EIS | when the EIS is no longer employed by a | activities after 2+ years in |
| | active status. EIS active status | contractor. An EIS on inactive status may not | the EIS Registry). The EIS |
| | donvo status. Lio donvo status | Contractor. Air Elo or mactive status may hot | the Lie registry). The Lie |

is considered reinstated after the information is entered into the EIS Registry and is approved by DARS ECI. An EIS may return to active status from inactive status by submitting 10 contact hours of continuing education for every year of inactive status. An EIS returning to active status must submit documentation of three contact hours of ethics training within the last two years.

(2) An EIS who has been on inactive status for longer than 24 months must complete the orientation training.

perform activities requiring the EIS active status. EIS active status is considered reinstated after the information is entered into the EIS Registry and is approved by DARS ECI. An EIS may return to active status from inactive status by submitting 10 contact hours of continuing education for every year of inactive status. An EIS returning to active status must submit documentation of three contact hours of ethics training within the last two years].

(i) Orientation to ECI training must be completed within 30 days, from the EIS's start date.

(ii) If an EIS is transferring from another program, the Orientation to ECI training must be completed within 30 days from the EIS's start date unless the EIS has documentation he or she has completed the current Orientation module.

(iii) All credentialing activities (Final IPDP) must be completed within a year from the EIS's start date.

(iv) Any EIS who is in the Final IPDP stage as of March 1, 2015, must complete all credentialing activities by March 1, 2016.

(B) the EIS is no longer employed by a contractor; an EIS may return to active status from inactive status by:

(i) submitting 10 contact hours of continuing

IPDP has been revised and completely separated from the Service Coordinator observations and demonstrations. These changes should allow EISs to complete their required activities well within the required deadlines. The clarification about when the 24 month "countdown" begins for EISs on inactive status was added to make sure everyone understood how long an EIS could remain on inactive status before he/she needs to complete all credentialing activities again. Finally, a statement was added to clarify how an EIS returns to active status from inactive status.

| | | education for every CPE due date that was | |
|-------------------|---|--|-----------------------------|
| | | missed while the EIS was on inactive status; and | |
| | | | |
| | | (ii) submitting documentation of three contact | |
| | | hours of ethics training within the last two years. | |
| | | | |
| | | (3) [(2)] An EIS who has been on inactive status | |
| | | for longer than 24 months from his or her first | |
| | | missed CPE submission date must complete all | |
| | | credentialing activities. [the orientation training.] | |
| | | [| |
| | | (4) EIS active status is considered reinstated after | |
| | | the information is entered into the EIS Registry | |
| | | and is approved by DARS ECI. | |
| | 108.315 | 108.315 | The wording was changed |
| | (e) Service Coordinator Active | (e) Requirements for service coordinator active | to match the wording in the |
| | Status and Service Coordinator | status and inactive status are as follows. | EIS rule. |
| | Inactive Status. | datas and mastive states are as follows: | LIO Tale. |
| Subchapter F. | 108.615 | 108.615 | The wording was changed |
| Public Outreach | (c) To facilitate families' | (c) The contractor must coordinate with LEA | for clarity. No additional |
| i ubiic Outreacii | effective transitions from ECI | representatives to facilitate an effective transition | requirements were added. |
| | services to Part B services in | from ECI to public school special education | requirements were added. |
| | | | |
| | the public schools, the contractor must coordinate with | services and the LEA provision of auditory and | |
| | | visual impairment services. Coordination activities | |
| | the local educational agency | focus on developing [To facilitate families' effective transitions from ECI services to Part B | |
| | (LEA) representatives to | | |
| | achieve a shared | services in the public schools, the contractor must | |
| | understanding of: | coordinate with the local educational agency | |
| | (1) eligibility requirements for | (LEA) representatives to achieve] a joint [shared] | |
| | public school services, | understanding of: | |
| | including for Part B services; | (1) eligibility requirements for public school | |
| | (2) the state-level MOUs with | services, including for Part B services; | |
| | TEA; and | (2) the state-level MOUs with TEA; and | |

| | (3) if applicable, MOUs with the LEAs. (d) To ensure that families eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start have access to those services as needed, the contractor must coordinate with the local Head Start and Early Head Start representative to achieve a shared understanding of: (1) eligibility requirements for Head Start and Early Head Start placement; (2) the state-level MOU with Head Start and Early Head Start; (3) referral procedures; and (4) if applicable, the local MOU with Head Start. | (3) if applicable, MOUs with the LEAs. (d) The contractor must coordinate with representatives from Head Start and Early Head Start to [Te] ensure that families eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start have access to those services, as available. Coordination activities focus on developing [needed, the contractor must coordinate with the local Head Start and Early Head Start representative to achieve] a joint [shared] understanding of: (1) eligibility requirements for Head Start and Early Head Start placement; (2) the state-level MOU with Head Start and Early Head Start; (3) referral procedures; and (4) if applicable, the local MOU with Head Start and Early Head Start. | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Subchapter G. Referral, Pre- Enrollment, and Developmental Screening | N/A | §108.701.Purpose. The purpose of this subchapter is to establish requirements related to referral, pre-enrollment, and developmental screening. | DARS prefers for each subsection to have a stated purpose. |

| N/A | §108.702.Legal Authority. | DARS prefers for each |
|---|--|--|
| | <u>A 10011 02.20gai 71atrionty.</u> | subsection to have a |
| | The following statutes and regulations authorize | stated legal authority that |
| | or require the rules in this subchapter: | requires or authorizes the |
| | | rules outlined in the |
| | (1) Texas Human Resources Code, Chapter 73; | subsection. |
| | (2) Texas Human Resources Code, Chapter 117; | |
| | (3) the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, | |
| | Part C (20 USC §§1431 - 1444); and | |
| | (4) implementing federal regulations 34 CFR Part | |
| 400 704 B (1B : | 303. | N. d. i. d. d. f. |
| 108.701 Referral Requirements | 108.704 Referral Requirements | Nothing in the content of |
| | | this rule changed. The rule number changed because |
| | | of adding the Purpose and |
| | | Legal Authority rules. |
| 108.707 (a) | 108.707 (a) | This change is intended to |
| (6) The contractor must | (6) The contractor must comply with all | eliminate redundancy in |
| conduct the activities in this | requirements in Subchapter B of this chapter | the rule. It does not |
| section in the parent's native | (relating to Procedural Safeguards and Due | remove the requirement of |
| language, as defined in | Process Procedures). | providing pre-enrollment |
| §108.103 of this chapter | T(0) =1 | activities in the parent's |
| (relating to Definitions), unless | (6) The contractor must conduct the activities in | native language. This |
| clearly not feasible. | this section in the parent's native language, as | requirement is stated in |
| 100 707 (d) The contracts: | defined in §108.103 of this chapter (relating to Definitions), unless clearly not feasible.] | Subchapter B and does not need to be repeated |
| 108.707 (d) The contractor | Deniminations), diffess deany not reasible. | here. |
| must comply with all requirements in Subchapter B | (d) The contractor must comply with all | Here. |
| of this chapter (relating to | requirements in Subchapter B of this chapter | |
| Procedural Safeguards and | (relating to Procedural Safeguards and Due | |

| | Due Process Procedures). | Process Procedures).] | |
|--|--|---|---|
| Subchapter H. Eligibility, Evaluation, and Assessment. | §108.809.Initial Eligibility Criteria. A child must be under 36 months of age and meet initial | §108.809.Initial Eligibility Criteria. A child must be under 36 months of age and meet initial eligibility criteria to receive early childhood intervention services. Initial eligibility is | There were no new requirements added to this rule. The changes were intended to add clarity to the existing requirements. |
| | eligibility criteria to receive early childhood intervention | established by: | and oxioting requirements. |
| | services. Initial eligibility is established by: | (1) documentation of a medically diagnosed condition that has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay; | |
| | (1) documentation of a medically diagnosed condition | (2) an auditory or visual impairment as defined by | |
| | that has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay; | the Texas Education Agency rule at 19 TAC §89.1040 (relating to Eligibility Criteria); or | |
| | (2) an auditory or visual impairment as defined by the | (3) a developmental delay. Each developmental area must be evaluated as defined in 34 CFR | |
| | Texas Education Agency rule at 19 TAC §89.1040 (relating to Eligibility Criteria); or | §303.321. Developmental delay is determined based on: | |
| | (3) a developmental delay. Each developmental area must | (A) an evaluation <u>using</u> [based on] a standardized tool designated by DARS that indicates | |
| | be evaluated as defined in 34 CFR §303.321. Developmental | [indicating] a delay of at least 25 percent [%] in one or more of the following developmental areas: | |
| | delay is determined based on: (A) an evaluation based on a | communication; cognitive; gross motor; fine motor; social emotional; or adaptive; or | |
| | standardized tool designated by DARS indicating a delay of at least 25% in one or more of the following developmental | (B) an evaluation <u>using</u> [based on] a standardized tool designated by DARS <u>that indicates</u> | |
| | areas: communication; | [indicating] a delay of at least 33 percent [%] if the | |

cognitive; gross motor; fine motor; social emotional; or adaptive; or

(B) an evaluation based on a standardized tool designated by DARS indicating a delay of at least 33% if the child's only delay is in expressive language; or

(C) a qualitative determination of delay, as indicated by responses or patterns that are disordered or qualitatively different from what is expected for the child's age. and significantly interfere with the child's ability to function in the environment. When the interdisciplinary team determines there is evidence that the results of the standardized tool do not accurately reflect the child's development, eligibility must be established using a supplemental protocol designated by DARS ECI. A child must meet the same eligibility standards in subparagraph (A) or (B) of this paragraph on the designated tool to qualify for a qualitative determination of delay.

child's only delay is in expressive language; or

(C) a qualitative determination of delay, as indicated by responses or patterns that are disordered or qualitatively different from what is expected for the child's age, and significantly interfere with the child's ability to function in the environment. When the interdisciplinary team determines there is evidence that the results of the standardized tool do not accurately reflect the child's development, eligibility must be established using a supplemental protocol designated by DARS ECI. A child must meet the same eligibility standards in subparagraph (A) or (B) of this paragraph on the designated tool to qualify for a qualitative determination of delay unless the child has an adjusted age or chronological age of under 3 months.

| §108.811.Eligibility |
|--------------------------------|
| Determination Based on |
| Medically Diagnosed Condition |
| That Has a High Probability of |
| Resulting in Developmental |
| Delay. |

(c) If a review of the child's records indicates that the child has a qualifying medical condition, the evaluation team must determine and document a need for early childhood intervention services.

§108.811. Eligibility Determination Based on Medically Diagnosed Condition That Has a High Probability of Resulting in Developmental Delay.

(c) If a review of the child's records indicates that the child has a qualifying medical condition, the evaluation team must determine and document a need for early childhood intervention services <u>as required in §108.837 of this title (relating to Needs Assessment)</u>.

This addition is intended to assist the reader in determining how to document a need for early intervention services by directing him/her to the specific rule that lists these requirements.

§108.813 Assessment of Hearing and Auditory Status

- (a) As part of evaluation the interdisciplinary team must review the current hearing and auditory status for every child through an analysis of the evaluation protocol results, or other screening tool if the child is eligible based on a medical diagnosis or vision impairment, to determine any need for further hearing assessment.
- (b) The contractor must refer a child to a licensed audiologist if the child has been identified as having a need for further

§108.813. <u>Determination</u> [Assessment] of Hearing and Auditory Status.

- (a) As part of evaluation the interdisciplinary team must determine any need for further hearing assessment. This determination is completed by reviewing [review] the current hearing and auditory status for every child through an analysis of [the] evaluation protocol results. A screening tool may be used for a or other screening tool if the child who is eligible based on a medical diagnosis or vision impairment[, to determine any need for further hearing assessment].
- (b) The contractor must refer a child to a licensed audiologist if the child has been identified as having a need for further hearing assessment and the child has not had a hearing assessment within six months of the hearing needs identification. If

The wording changes are intended to clarify the specific requirements of the rule. No new requirements were added.

| hearing assessment and the child has not had a hearing assessment within six months of the hearing needs identification. If necessary to access a licensed audiologist, the contractor may refer the child to their primary health care provider. The referral must be made: (1) within five working days; and (2) with parental consent. (c) If the contractor receives an audiological assessment that indicates the child has an auditory impairment, the contractor must refer the child within five business days: | necessary to access a licensed audiologist, the contractor may refer the child to their primary health care provider. The referral must be made: (1) within five working days; and (2) with parental consent. (c) If the contractor receives an audiological assessment that indicates the child has an auditory impairment, the contractor must, with written parental consent, refer the child within five business days: | |
|--|--|--|
| 108.815 Assessment of Vision Services (a) As part of evaluation the interdisciplinary team must review the current vision status for every child through an analysis of the evaluation protocol results, or other screening tool if the child is eligible based on a medical diagnosis or hearing impairment, to determine the need for further vision | §108.815. Determination [Assessment] of Vision Status. (a) As part of evaluation, the interdisciplinary team must determine any need for further vision assessment. This determination is completed by reviewing [review] the current vision status for every child through an analysis of [the] evaluation protocol results. A screening tool may be used for a [, or other screening tool if the] child who is eligible based on a medical diagnosis or hearing impairment [, to determine the need for further vision assessment.] | The wording changes are intended to clarify the specific requirements of the rule. No new requirements were added. |

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| assessment. | | |
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| | | |
| 108.817 | 400.047 | This wile contains a new |
| | 108.817 | This rule contains a new |
| (b) The parent and at least tw | , , | requirement – an LPHA |
| professionals from different | different disciplines must conduct the evaluation | must be one of the two |
| disciplines must conduct the | to determine initial and continuing eligibility based | professionals on an |
| evaluation to determine initial | on developmental delay as defined by | evaluation team. Having |
| and continuing eligibility base | , , , | an LPHA on the team |
| on developmental delay as | Criteria). An LPHA must be one of the two | strengthens the team's |
| defined by §108.809(3) of this | professionals. Service coordination is not | ability to identify all of a |
| title (relating to Initial Eligibility | · | child's needs. In addition, |
| Criteria). Service coordination | evaluation procedures must include: | having an LPHA as part of |
| is not considered a discipline | | the initial evaluation team |
| for evaluation. The evaluation | (1) administration of the standardized tool | prevents families from |
| procedures must include: | designated by DARS ECI; | having to wait for a |
| (1) administration of the | | qualitative determination of |
| standardized tool designated | (2) taking the child's history, including interviewing | delay if needed. |
| by DARS ECI; | the parent; | |
| (2) taking the child's history, | | The addition of (7) requires |
| including interviewing the | (3) identifying the child's level of functioning in | that the LPHA on the team |
| parent; | each of the developmental areas in 34 CFR | apply clinical knowledge to |
| (3) identifying the child's leve | l §303.21(a)(1); | interpret test scores and |
| of functioning in each of the | | determine developmental |
| developmental areas in 34 CF | R (4) gathering information from other sources such | delay based on those |
| §303.21(a)(1); | as family members, other caregivers, medical | scores in combination with |
| (4) gathering information from | n providers, social workers, and educators, if | information gathered from |
| other sources such as family | necessary, to understand the full scope of the | other sources, which help |
| members, other caregivers, | child's unique strengths and needs; | to ensure that no single |
| medical providers, social | | procedure was used as the |

workers, and educators, if necessary, to understand the full scope of the child's unique strengths and needs;

- (5) reviewing medical, educational, and other records; and
- (6) in addition to 34 CFR §303.321(b), determining the most appropriate setting, circumstances, time of day, and participants for the evaluation in order to capture the most accurate picture of the child's ability to function in his or her natural environment.
- (c) The contractor must consider other evaluations and assessments performed by outside entities when requested by the family.
- (1) The contractor must determine whether outside evaluations and assessments:
- (A) are consistent with DARS ECI policies:
- (B) reflect the child's current status; and
- (C) have implications for IFSP development.
- (2) If the family does not allow full access to those records or to those entities or does not

- (5) reviewing medical, educational, and other records; and
- (6) in addition to 34 CFR §303.321(b), determining the most appropriate setting, circumstances, time of day, and participants for the evaluation in order to capture the most accurate picture of the child's ability to function in his or her natural environment; and [-]
- (7) interpreting scores and determining delay through the application of informed clinical opinion to test results.
- (c) The contractor must consider other evaluations and assessments performed by outside entities when requested by the family.
- (1) The contractor must determine whether outside evaluations and assessments:
- (A) are consistent with DARS ECI policies;
- (B) reflect the child's current status; and
- (C) have implications for IFSP development.
- (2) If the family does not allow full access to those records or to those entities or does not consent to or does not cooperate in evaluations or assessments to verify their findings, the contractor may discount or disregard the other evaluations and assessments performed by

sole criterion for determining a child's eligibility.

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| consent to or does not | outside entities. | |
| cooperate in evaluations or | | |
| assessments to verify their | [(d) Evaluation must be based on informed clinical | |
| findings, the contractor may | opinion.] | |
| discount or disregard the other | | |
| evaluations and assessments | | |
| performed by outside entities. | | |
| (d) Evaluation must be based | | |
| on informed clinical opinion. | | |
| §108.819. Adjustment for | §108.819.Age Adjustment for Children Born | This addition provides |
| Children Born Prematurely. | Prematurely. | more clarity about what is |
| | , | being adjusted for children |
| | | who are born prematurely. |
| §108.821.Qualitative | §108.821.Qualitative Determination of | This section was rewritten |
| Determination of | Developmental Delay. | to provide clarity on the |
| Developmental Delay. | | procedures for determining |
| | [(a)] Qualitative Determination of Developmental | a qualitative delay. |
| a) When the results of the | Delay is applied as described in this section [in | ' |
| evaluation, using the | two circumstances]: | This change also removes |
| standardized tool designated | | the requirement that a |
| by DARS ECI, do not | (1) When a child's adjusted age is 0 months, | team administer the BDI |
| accurately reflect the child's | administration of the standardized tool or another | for a child who has an |
| development or ability to | protocol is not required. The interdisciplinary | adjusted age of 0 months |
| function in the natural | team, which must include an LPHA | before moving to |
| environment, the | knowledgeable in the area of concern, must | qualitative determination of |
| interdisciplinary team | describe clinical findings and how those findings | delay. This requirement |
| documents this in the child's | significantly interfere with the child's functional | was removed because it is |
| record and proceeds to a | abilities.[; or] | impossible to show a 25% |
| qualitative determination of | | delay for a child who has |
| developmental delay. | (2) When the evaluation results, which are | an adjusted age of 0. |
| | measured using the standardized tool designated | |
| (b) The interdisciplinary team | by DARS ECI, do not accurately reflect the child's | The specific citation of |
| must use the supplemental | development or ability to function in the natural | "which must include an |

protocol designated by DARS ECI to determine qualitative delay.

environment, the interdisciplinary team, [which must include an LPHA,] documents this information in the child's record and proceeds to a qualitative determination of developmental delay.[+]

[(b)] (A) For a child with an adjusted or chronological age of greater than 0 months but less than 3 months, the interdisciplinary team, which must include an LPHA knowledgeable in the area of concern, qualitatively determines developmental delay by describing clinical findings and how those findings significantly interfere with the child's functional abilities.

[(e)] (B) For a child with an adjusted or chronological age of at least 3 months, the interdisciplinary team, which must include an LPHA knowledgeable in the area of concern, must use the supplemental protocol designated by DARS ECI to qualitatively determine developmental delay. The developmental domains and sub-domains that can be used for qualitative determination of delay are established by DARS.

[(a) When the results of the evaluation, using the standardized tool designated by DARS ECI, do not accurately reflect the child's development or ability to function in the natural environment, the interdisciplinary team documents this in the child's record and proceeds to a qualitative

LPHA" was removed to eliminate redundancy. As defined, every interdisciplinary team is required to have an LPHA

| | The contract of the class of the class | |
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| | determination of developmental delay.] | |
| | T(1) = 1 | |
| | [(b) The interdisciplinary team must use the | |
| | supplemental protocol designated by DARS ECI | |
| | to determine qualitative delay.] | |
| 108.828 | 108.828 | This rule change clarifies |
| (c) The eligibility statement | (c) The eligibility statement must be: | that the eligibility form |
| must be: | (1) completed for every child evaluated; | must be completed for |
| (1) in the child's record; and | (2) [(1)] in the child's record; and | every child evaluated, |
| (2) updated when eligibility | (3) [(2)] updated when eligibility [changes or] is re- | including a child who does |
| changes or is re-determined. | determined. | not qualify for ECI |
| - | (d) Only one eligibility type may be [selected for | services, and establishes |
| | the child listed on the eligibility statement: | an "expiration" date for the |
| | (1) medical diagnosis; | form. It also removes the |
| | (2) vision or hearing impairment as defined by | previous requirement that |
| | the Texas Education Agency; [or] | the form must be updated |
| | (3) developmental delay; | when eligibility changes. |
| | (e) [If a child meets multiple eligibility criteria, | The form should not be |
| | on the eligibility statement, subsection (d)(1) | updated until eligibility is |
| | takes priority over subsection (d)(2) and (3), | redetermined, even if the |
| | and subsection (d)(2) takes priority over | team learns of new |
| | subsection (d)(3).] The eligibility statement is | qualifying criteria between |
| | valid for 1 year, except for children who are | initial eligibly and annual |
| | eligible with a qualitative determination of | eligibility. |
| | developmental delay. The eligibility statement | ongiomity. |
| | for children who are determined eligible with a | |
| | qualitative determination of developmental | |
| | delay is valid for six months. Information | |
| | about additional qualifying criteria is | |
| | documented in the child's record. The | |
| | eligibility statement does not need to be | |
| | | |
| | changed or updated until eligibility is re- | |
| | <u>determined.</u> | |

| §108.1005 Medical | Review §108.828.Medical Review for ECI Services. | The rule about medical |
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| for Early Childhood Int | | review was moved from |
| Services (IFSP Subcha | apter) | the IFSP subchapter to the |
| | | Evaluation and |
| | | Assessment subchapter |
| | | because medical review is |
| | | part of the eligibility |
| | | determination process. |
| | | Moving the rule improves the "flow" for the reader |
| | | and will hopefully increase |
| | | the reader's understanding |
| | | of the requirements. |
| 108.833 | 108.833 | The name of the M-CHAT |
| (3) complete the Modif | ied (3) complete the Modified Checklist for Autism in | was changed to the M- |
| Checklist for Autism in | ` ' | CHAT-R when it was |
| (M-CHAT) if the child i | s not screened by the child's licensed health care | revised. |
| screened by the child's | | |
| health care provider or | • | |
| unable to receive the s | , | |
| from the child's license | | |
| care provider in a time | | |
| manner; and | for a child who does not pass the M-CHAT-R | |
| (4) complete the M-CF | screening. | |
| follow-up interview for | | |
| who does not pass the | | |
| CHAT screening. | child required under this subchapter. | ^ |
| S. I. Co. Solling. | c.ma roquirou unaor uno oubonapior. | |
| (f) The use of the M-C | TAT | |
| screening does not tak | e the | |
| place of the appropriat | e | |
| evaluation of the child | required | |

| under this subchapter. | | |
|--|--|---|
| N/A | §108.835.Contractor Oversight. Contractors must have internal written procedures that establish a system of clinical oversight for eligibility determination. Clinical oversight, which is conducted by a person with knowledge of evaluation and assessment of young children, includes ensuring that: | This rule was developed to call attention to the importance of oversight of the eligibility determination process. ECI monitoring and quality assurance has noted issues related to evaluation and assessment which could |
| | (1) DARS ECI eligibility criteria is applied consistently to children evaluated; (2) testing is administered and scored accurately according to the requirements of the tool; | be prevented through implementation of an oversight system. Additionally, having a system of oversight helps to ensure the program is |
| | (3) evaluations to determine eligibility are comprehensive; (4) test scores are interpreted and determination of delay includes the application of informed clinical opinion; and | correctly identifying children who qualify for ECI services. |
| | (5) eligibility decisions are fully documented in: (A) the eligibility statement; and | |
| 108.827 Needs Assessment (a) The interdisciplinary team, | (B) progress note or evaluation report. §108.837.Needs Assessment. | Moving the Needs Assessment rule to the |

- to include the service coordinator, must complete a comprehensive needs assessment initially and annually to:
- (1) determine and document the eligible child's need for early childhood intervention services:
- (2) identify the child's unique strengths and needs;
- (3) identify the family's resources, concerns, and priorities;
- (4) identify the appropriate early childhood intervention services: and
- (5) inform the development of the IFSP.
- (b) The assessment of the child must include:
- (1) a review of the results of the child's evaluation;
- (2) personal observation of the child; and
- (3) the identification of the child's needs in each of the developmental areas listed in 34 CFR §303.21(a)(1).
- (c) The contractor must offer to conduct a family-directed assessment and comply with all requirements in 34 CFR

- (a) The interdisciplinary team, which includes the service coordinator, must conduct a comprehensive needs assessment initially and annually as part of the IFSP process. The comprehensive needs assessment must identify and document:
- (1) the needs of the child in each developmental area as listed in 34 CFR 303.21(a)(1), including those identified through the evaluation and observation;
- (2) the family's concerns regarding their child's development and the supports and services necessary to enhance the family's capacity to meet the developmental needs of their child;
- (3) the functional abilities and unique strengths of the child; and
- (4) the family's description of their resources, concerns, and priorities related to enhancing the child's development.
- (b) The assessment of the child must include:
- (1) a review of the results of the child's evaluation;
- (2) personal observations of the child; and
- (3) the identification of the child's needs in each of the developmental areas listed in 34 CFR

end of the evaluation and assessment subchapter bridges the eligibility determination process and IFSP development. The changes to the wording of the rule are intended to improve clarity. No new requirements were added.

§303.321(c) (relating to Procedures for assessment of the child and family). A family-directed assessment must be conducted by the interdisciplinary team in order to identify the family's resources, priorities, and concerns and the supports and services necessary to enhance the family's capacity to meet the developmental needs of the child. The family-directed assessment must:

- (1) be voluntary on the part of each family member participating in the assessment;
- (2) be based on information obtained through the assessment tool and also through an interview with those family members participating in the assessment; and
- (3) include the family's description of its resources, priorities, and concerns related to enhancing the child's development.
- (d) Providers must assess and document the child's progress and needs of the family on an ongoing basis.

§303.21(a)(1).

- (c) The contractor must offer to conduct a family-directed assessment and comply with requirements in 34 CFR §303.321(c) (relating to Procedures for assessment of the child and family) to identify the family's resources, priorities, and concerns and the supports and services necessary to enhance the family's capacity to meet the developmental needs of the child. The family-directed assessment must:
- (1) be voluntary on the part of each family member participating in the assessment; and
- (2) be based on information obtained through the assessment tool and also through an interview with those family members participating in the assessment.
- (d) Providers must assess and document the child's progress and needs of the family on an ongoing basis.

| Subchapter J. Individualized | N/A | <u>§108.1001.Purpose.</u> | DARS prefers for each subsection to have a |
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| Family Services | | The purpose of this subchapter is to establish | stated purpose. |
| Plan (IFSP.) | | requirements related to IFSPs. | |
| | N/A | §108.1002.Legal Authority. | DARS prefers for each subsection to have a |
| | | The following statutes and regulations authorize | stated legal authority that |
| | | or require the rules in this subchapter: | requires or authorizes the rules outlined in the |
| | | (1) Texas Human Resources Code, Chapter 73; | subsection. |
| | | (2) Texas Human Resources Code, Chapter 117; | |
| | | (3) the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C (20 USC §§1431 - 1444); and | |
| | | (4) implementing federal regulations 34 CFR Part | |
| | \$400 4004 Definitions | 303. | The purple or of the guide |
| | §108.1001.Definitions. | §108.1003.Definitions. | The number of the rule |
| | | | changed because of the addition of the Purpose |
| | | | and Legal Authority rules. |
| | §108.1003.IFSP. | §108.1004.IFSP. | The number of the rule |
| | 3100.1000.II CI . | <u> </u> | changed because of the |
| | (a) The IFSP team must | (a) The IFSP team must develop a written initial | addition of the Purpose |
| | develop a written initial IFSP | IFSP during a face-to-face meeting with the family | and Legal Authority rules. |
| | during a face-to-face meeting | in accordance with 20 USC §1436 and 34 CFR | The requirements about |
| | with the family in accordance | §§303.340 - 303.346. | having a non face-to-face |
| | with 20 USC §1436 and 34 | | annual IFSP meeting were |
| | CFR §303.340 through | (b) The annual meeting to evaluate the IFSP may | removed from rule |
| | §303.346. | be conducted by means other than a face-to-face | 108.1009 and added to |
| | (b) The IFSP must be | meeting if: | this rule to improve the |
| | developed based on evaluation | | readability of the rule. |

and assessment described in 34 CFR §303.321 and Subchapter H of this chapter (relating to Eligibility, Evaluation, and Assessment). The IFSP must address the developmental needs of the child and the case management needs of the family as identified in the comprehensive needs assessment, unless the family declines to address a specified need.

- (c) The contractor must deliver early childhood intervention services according to the IFSP.
- (d) The IFSP team must complete a periodic review of the IFSP at six-month intervals as required in 20 USC §1436 and 34 CFR §303.342.
- (e) The IFSP team must conduct an annual meeting to evaluate the IFSP as required in 34 CFR §303.342, or more frequently if the parent requests.
- (f) Documentation in the child's record must reflect compliance with all related state and federal requirements.
- (g) The contractor must provide

(1) approved by the parent; and

(2) the contractor has a plan approved by DARS for conducting annual meetings to evaluate the IFSP by means other than a face-to-face meeting when appropriate for the child and family and approved by the parent, in which case the contractor must document how the most recent observations and conclusions of the LPHA conducting the re-evaluation were communicated and incorporated into the IFSP.

(c) The parent must be informed of his or her choices for conducting the annual meeting.

(d) The IFSP must be developed based on evaluation and assessment described in 34 CFR §303.321 and Subchapter H of this chapter (relating to Eligibility, Evaluation, and Assessment). The IFSP must address the developmental needs of the child and the case management needs of the family as identified in the comprehensive needs assessment, unless the family declines to address a specified need.

(e) The contractor must deliver early childhood intervention services according to the IFSP.

(f) The IFSP team must complete a periodic review of the IFSP at six-month intervals as required in 20 USC §1436 and 34 CFR §303.342.

(g) The IFSP team must conduct an annual

| the parent with a copy of the | meeting to evaluate the IFSP as required in 34 | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| IFSP, as required in | CFR §303.342, or more frequently if the parent | |
| §108.223(d) of this chapter | requests. | |
| (relating to Fees for Records) | | |
| and maintain the original IFSP | (h) Documentation in the child's record must | |
| in the child's record. | reflect compliance with related state and federal | |
| (h) The contractor must comply | requirements. | |
| with all requirements in | | |
| Subchapter B of this chapter | (i) The contractor must provide the parent with a | |
| (relating to Procedural | copy of the IFSP, as required in §108.223(d) of | |
| Safeguards and Due Process | this chapter (relating to Fees for Records) and | |
| Procedures) during the IFSP | maintain the original IFSP in the child's record. | |
| process. | | |
| | (j) The contractor must comply with all | |
| | requirements in Subchapter B of this chapter | |
| | (relating to Procedural Safeguards and Due | |
| | Process Procedures) during the IFSP process. | |
| §108.1009.Participants in Initial | §108.1009.Participants in Initial and Annual | The changes to this rule |
| and Annual Meetings to | Meetings to Evaluate the IFSP. | increase readability and |
| Evaluate the IFSP. | | add clarity. |
| | (a) The initial IFSP meeting and each annual | |
| (a) The initial IFSP meeting and | meeting to evaluate the IFSP must be conducted | |
| each annual meeting to | by the IFSP team as defined in 34 CFR | |
| evaluate the IFSP must be | §303.343(a) (relating to IFSP Team meeting and | |
| conducted by the IFSP team as | periodic review). | |
| defined in 34 CFR §303.343(a) | | |
| (relating to IFSP Team meeting | (b) The initial IFSP meeting and the annual | |
| and periodic review). | meeting to evaluate the IFSP must be conducted | |
| | by an interdisciplinary team that includes, [face- | |
| (b) The initial IFSP meeting and | to-face with] at a minimum, the parent and at least | |
| the annual meeting to evaluate | two professionals from different disciplines or | |
| the IFSP must be conducted | professions. | |
| face-to-face with at a minimum, | | |

the parent and at least two professionals from different disciplines or professions.

- (1) At least one of the two ECI professionals must be a service coordinator.
- (2) At least one of the two ECI professionals must be an LPHA.
- (3) At least one ECI professional attending the meeting must have been involved in conducting the evaluation. This may be the service coordinator, the LPHA. or a third professional. If the LPHA attending the IFSP meeting is not an LPHA who conducted the evaluation, the contractor must document how the most recent observations and conclusions of the LPHA who conducted the evaluation were communicated to the LPHA attending the initial IFSP meeting and incorporated into the IFSP.
- (4) Other team members may participate by other means acceptable to the team.
- (5) The annual meeting to evaluate the IFSP may be conducted by means other than

- (1) At least one of the two ECI professionals must be a service coordinator.
- (2) At least one of the two ECI professionals must be an LPHA.
- (3) At least one ECI professional attending the meeting must have been involved in conducting the evaluation. This may be the service coordinator, the LPHA, or a third professional. If the LPHA attending the IFSP meeting is not an LPHA who conducted the evaluation, the contractor must ensure that [document how] the most recent observations and conclusions of the LPHA who conducted the evaluation were communicated to the LPHA attending the initial IFSP meeting and incorporated into the IFSP.
- (4) Other team members may participate by other means acceptable to the team.
- [(5) The annual meeting to evaluate the IFSP may be conducted by means other than a face-to-face meeting if:]

[(A) approved by the parent; and]

[(B) the contractor has a plan approved by DARS for conducting annual meetings to evaluate the IFSP by means other than a face-to-face meeting when appropriate for the child and family and approved by the parent in which case the contractor must document how the most recent

| at | face-to-face meeting if: | observations and conclusions of the LPHA | |
|-----|---|--|------------------------------|
| | (A) approved by the parent; | conducting the re-evaluation were communicated | |
| an | | and incorporated into the IFSP.] | |
| | (B) the contractor has a plan | • | |
| | oproved by DARS for | (6) Parents must be informed of their choice | |
| • | onducting annual meetings to | regarding how the annual meeting is conducted. | |
| | valuate the IFSP by means | | |
| | ther than a face-to-face | | |
| | eeting when appropriate for | | |
| | e child and family and | | |
| | oproved by the parent in | | |
| | hich case the contractor must | | |
| | ocument how the most recent | | |
| | oservations and conclusions | | |
| | | | |
| | the LPHA conducting the revaluation were communicated | | |
| | | | |
| | nd incorporated into the IFSP. | | |
| 1 ` | (6) Parents must be informed | | |
| | their choice regarding how | | |
| | e annual meeting is | | |
| | onducted. | | |
| 10 | 08.1015 | <u>108.1015</u> | Changes to this rule |
| | | | operationalize the inclusion |
| | | (E) the child's functional abilities identified with | of information that |
| | | codes for establishing the child outcome ratings, | supports child outcomes |
| | | described in §108.1307 of this chapter (regarding | ratings in the IFSP. These |
| | | <u>Child Outcomes</u>). | procedures have been |
| | | | required as part of the |
| (2) | 2) a description of the case | (2) a description of the case management needs | IFSP required elements. |
| ma | anagement needs of the | of the family; | The other changes clarify |
| fai | mily; | - | the requirements of this |
| (; | (3) measurable outcomes | (3) measurable outcomes that: | rule. |
| tha | at: | | |

- (A) address the child's and family's needs which were identified during pre-enrollment, evaluation, and assessment; and
- (B) are intended to enhance the child's functional developmental skills and ability to participate in everyday family and community routines and activities:
- (4) services to:
- (A) address the outcomes in the IFSP;
- (B) enhance the child's functional abilities, behaviors and routines; and
- (C) strengthen the capacity of the family to meet the child's unique needs;
- (5) the discipline of each provider for every service planned; and
- (6) the name of the service coordinator.
- (b) If the team determines that Specialized Skills Training (SST) is necessary, the team must ensure interdisciplinary monitoring of the SST and of child progress in accordance with §108.501 of this chapter (relating to Specialized Skills

- (A) address the child's and family's needs which were identified during pre-enrollment, evaluation, and assessment; and
- (B) <u>address</u> [<u>are intended to enhance</u>] the child's functional developmental skills <u>by describing</u> <u>targeted participation</u> [<u>and ability to participate</u>] in everyday family and community routines and activities;
- (4) services to:
- (A) address the outcomes in the IFSP;
- (B) enhance the child's functional abilities, behaviors and routines; and
- (C) strengthen the capacity of the family to meet the child's unique needs;
- (5) the discipline of each provider for every service planned; and
- (6) the name of the service coordinator.
- (b) IFSP services must be monitored to assess child progress by the interdisciplinary team as described in §108.1017 of this chapter (relating to Periodic Reviews). If the team determines that Specialized Skills Training (SST) is necessary, the team must ensure interdisciplinary monitoring of the SST and of child progress in accordance with §108.501 of this chapter (relating to

Training (Developmental Services)) by planning in the IFSP:

- (1) regularly occurring service by the LPHA; or
- (2) re-assessment by the LPHA at least every six months.
- (c) If the IFSP team determines co-visits are necessary, the IFSP team must:
- (1) list each service on the IFSP; and
- (2) document in the IFSP a justification of how the child and family, will receive greater benefit from the services being provided at the same time.
- (d) If providing services with the participation of the routine caregiver in the absence of the parent is necessary, the IFSP team must document in the IFSP a justification of how the child will benefit from delivering the specified services with the routine caregiver.
- (e) If the IFSP team determines group services are necessary:
- (1) the group services must be planned in an IFSP that also contains individual IFSP services; and

Specialized Skills Training (Developmental Services)) by planning in the IFSP:

- (1) regularly occurring service by the LPHA; or
- (2) re-assessment by the LPHA at least every six months.
- (c) If the IFSP team determines co-visits are necessary, the IFSP team must:
- (1) list each service on the IFSP; and
- (2) document in the IFSP a justification of how the child and family, will receive greater benefit from the services being provided at the same time.
- (d) If providing services with the participation of the routine caregiver in the absence of the parent is necessary, the IFSP team must follow the requirements in §108.1016 of this chapter (relating to Planning for Services to be Delivered with the Routine Caregiver). [document in the IFSP a justification of how the child will benefit from delivering the specified services with the routine caregiver.]
- (e) If the IFSP team determines group services are necessary to meet the developmental needs of the individual infant or toddler:
- (1) the group services must be planned in an IFSP that also contains individual IFSP services:

- (2) the planned group services must be documented in the child's IFSP.
- (f) If the IFSP team determines that an IFSP outcome cannot be achieved satisfactorily in a natural environment, the IFSP must contain a justification as to why an early childhood intervention service will be provided in a setting other than a natural environment, as determined appropriate by the parent and the rest of the IFSP team.
- (g) The contents of the IFSP must be fully explained to the parent.
- (h) The contractor must obtain the parent's signature on the IFSP services page. The parent's signature on the IFSP services page serves as written parental consent to provide the IFSP services. The written parental consent is valid for up to one year or until the IFSP team changes the type, intensity, or frequency of services. The contractor must not provide IFSP services without current written parental consent.

and

- (2) the planned group services must be documented in the child's IFSP.
- (f) If the IFSP team determines that an IFSP outcome cannot be achieved satisfactorily in a natural environment, the IFSP must contain a justification as to why an early childhood intervention service will be provided in a setting other than a natural environment, as determined appropriate by the parent and the rest of the IFSP team.
- (g) The contents of the IFSP must be fully explained to the parent.
- (h) The contractor must obtain the parent's signature on the IFSP services page. The parent's signature on the IFSP services page serves as written parental consent to provide the IFSP services. The written parental consent is valid for up to one year or until the IFSP team changes the type, intensity, or frequency of services. The contractor must not provide IFSP services without current written parental consent.
- (i) The contractor must obtain, on the IFSP services page, the dated signatures of every member of the IFSP team as defined in §108.103(24) of this chapter (relating to Definitions). The IFSP must be signed by the LPHA on the team to acknowledge the planned

(i) The contractor must obtain, on the IFSP services page, the dated signatures of every member of the IFSP team as defined in §108.103(24) of this chapter (relating to Definitions).

services are reasonable and necessary.

§108.1013.Periodic Reviews.

- a) Each periodic review must be conducted by individuals that meet the requirements in 34 CFR §303.343(b) (relating to IFSP Team meetings and periodic reviews) and completed in compliance with 34 CFR §303.342(b) (relating to Procedures for IFSP development, review, and evaluation). The periodic review may be carried out by a meeting or by another means that is acceptable to the parents and other participants.
- (b) Additionally, the child's record must contain documentation of all IFSP team members' participation in the periodic review. Participation in the periodic review may be accomplished by a team member attending the meeting, face-to-face or by telephone, or

§108.1017.Periodic Reviews.

- (a) Each periodic review must be conducted by individuals who meet the requirements in 34 CFR §303.343(b) (relating to IFSP Team meetings and periodic reviews) and be completed in compliance with 34 CFR §303.342(b) (relating to Procedures for IFSP development, review, and evaluation). The periodic review may be carried out by a meeting or by another means that is acceptable to the parents and other participants.
- (b) Additionally, the child's record must contain documentation of all IFSP team members' participation in the periodic review. Participation in the periodic review may be accomplished by a team member attending the meeting face-to-face or by telephone or by providing input and information in advance of the meeting. If a team member participates by means other than a face-to-face meeting, the team member must give the service coordinator his or her most recent observations and conclusions about the child. The team member must document in the child's record how this information was communicated to the service coordinator. If the team member is an LPHA who is not providing ongoing services to

The periodic review rule was moved after the "Contents of the IFSP" and "Planning Services with a Routine Caregiver" rules to improve the flow and readability of the IFSP subchapter. The wording changes under (e)(1)-(5) clarify the actions that must be completed during a periodic review. No new requirements were added.

by providing input and information in advance of the meeting. If a team member participates by means other than a face-to-face meeting, he or she must provide their most recent observations and conclusions about the child to the service coordinator. He or she must document in the child's record how this information was communicated to the service coordinator. If the team member is an LPHA who is not providing ongoing services to the child, he or she must have assessed the child within the previous 30 days.

- (c) A periodic review is required every 6 months at a minimum.
- (d) Additional periodic reviews of the IFSP are conducted more frequently than six-month intervals if requested by the parent or other IFSP team members.
- (e) The periodic review of the IFSP consists of the following actions, which must be documented in the child's

the child, he or she must have assessed the child within the previous 30 days.

- (c) A periodic review is required at least every six months.
- (d) Additional periodic reviews of the IFSP are conducted more frequently than six-month intervals if requested by the parent or other IFSP team members.
- (e) The periodic review of the IFSP consists of the following actions, which must be documented in the child's record and be provided to the parent:
- (1) a review of the child's progress toward meeting each outcome on the IFSP and the child's functional abilities related to the outcome;
- (2) a review of the current developmental needs of the child and the needs of the family related to their ability to meet the developmental concerns and priorities;
- (3) a review of the case management needs of the child and the family;
- (4) the development of new outcomes or the modification of existing outcomes, as appropriate, that must be dated and attached to the IFSP; and
- (5) the reasons for any modification to the plan or

record and provided to the parent:

- (1) a review of the IFSP outcomes;
- (2) a description of the child's current functional abilities and progress toward meeting each outcome;
- (3) a review of the current needs of the child and family;
- (4) the development of new outcomes or the modification of existing outcomes, as appropriate, which must be dated and attached to the IFSP; and
- (5) the reasons for any modification to the plan or the rationale for not changing the plan.
- (f) If the IFSP team adds transition steps and services as part of the periodic review, the team must follow the requirements in §108.1207(d) of this chapter (relating to Transition Planning).
- (g) If the team determines that changes to the type, intensity, or frequency of services are required:
- (1) the team completes a DARS required IFSP Services

the rationale for not changing the plan.

- (f) If the IFSP team adds transition steps and services as part of the periodic review, the team must follow the requirements in §108.1207(d) of this chapter (relating to Transition Planning).
- (g) If the team determines that changes to the type, intensity, or frequency of services are required:
- (1) the team completes a DARS required IFSP Services Page and provides a copy to the parent:
- (2) the team must document the rationale for:
- (A) a change in intensity or frequency of a service;
- (B) the addition of a new service; or
- (C) the discontinuation of a service; and
- (3) the contractor must continue to provide planned early childhood intervention services not affected by the change while the IFSP team develops the IFSP revision and gathers required signatures.
- (h) If services remain the same, the documentation must describe the rationale for making no changes and for recommending

Page and provides a copy to the parent;

- (2) the team must document the rationale for:
- (A) a change in intensity or frequency of a service;
- (B) the addition of a new service; or
- (C) the discontinuation of a service; and
- (3) the contractor must continue to provide all planned early childhood intervention services not affected by the change while the IFSP team develops the IFSP revision and gathers all required signatures.
- (h) If services remain the same, the documentation must describe the rationale for making no changes and for recommending continued services.
- (i) If new outcomes are developed, the documentation must be provided to the parent.
- (j) A change of service coordinator does not require a periodic review.

continued services.

- (i) If new outcomes are developed, the documentation must be provided to the parent.
- (j) A change of service coordinator does not require a periodic review.

§108.1019. Annual Meeting to Evaluate the IFSP.

- (a) The annual meeting to evaluate the IFSP is done following determination of continuing eligibility. In addition to all requirements in 34 CFR §303.342 (relating to Procedures for IFSP development, review, and evaluation), the documentation of an Annual Meeting to Evaluate the IFSP must meet the requirements for Complete Review and include a documented team discussion of:
- (1) a current description of the child including:
- (A) reviews of the current evaluations and other information available from ongoing assessment of the child and family needs;
- (B) health, vision, hearing, and nutritional status; and
- (C) present level of development related to the three annual child outcome ratings found in §108.1301 of this chapter (relating to Child Outcomes);

§108.1019. Annual Meeting to Evaluate the IFSP.

- (a) The annual meeting to evaluate the IFSP is conducted [dene] following determination of continuing eligibility. In addition to all requirements in 34 CFR §303.342 (relating to Procedures for IFSP development, review, and evaluation), the documentation of an Annual Meeting to Evaluate the IFSP must meet the requirements for Complete Review and include a documented team discussion of:
- (1) a current description of the child including:
- (A) reviews of the current evaluations and other information available from ongoing assessment of the child and family needs;
- (B) health, vision, hearing, and nutritional status; and
- (C) present level of development related to the three annual child outcome ratings found in §108.1301 of this chapter (relating to Child Outcomes) including:[;]
- (i) the functional abilities and strengths of the child;
- (ii) the developmental needs of the child; and
- (iii) the family priorities regarding the child's development.

Changes to this rule operationalize the inclusion of information related to the child outcomes rating in the annual IFSP. These procedures have been required as part of the annual IFSP form.

| Subchapter K. Service Delivery. | N/A | §108.1101.Purpose. The purpose of this subchapter is to establish requirements related to ECI service delivery. | DARS prefers for each subsection to have a stated purpose. |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| | N/A | §108.1102.Legal Authority. The following statutes and regulations authorize or require the rules in this subchapter: (1) Texas Human Resources Code, Chapter 73; (2) Texas Human Resources Code, Chapter 117; (3) the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C (20 USC §§1431 - 1444); and | DARS prefers for each subsection to have a stated legal authority that requires or authorizes the rules outlined in the subsection. |
| | | (4) implementing federal regulations 34 CFR Part 303. | |
| | §108.1103.Early Childhood Intervention Services Delivery. | §108.1104.Early Childhood Intervention Services Delivery. | This rule number changed because of the addition of the Purpose and Legal |
| | (a) Early childhood intervention services needed by the child must be initiated in a timely manner and delivered as planned in the IFSP. Only qualified staff members, as described in Subchapter C of this chapter (relating to Staff Qualifications) are authorized to provide early childhood intervention services. | (a) Early childhood intervention services needed by the child must be initiated in a timely manner and delivered as planned in the IFSP. Only qualified staff members, as described in Subchapter C of this chapter (relating to Staff Qualifications) are authorized to provide early childhood intervention services. | Authority rules. Although there is new language in this rule about the IFSP team monitoring services every six months, this is not a new requirement. This is currently required through the periodic review of the IFSP. This addition is to remind team members that reassessment is part of |

- (b) The contractor must ensure that early childhood intervention services are appropriate, as determined by the IFSP team, and based on scientifically based research, to the extent practicable. In addition to the requirements in 34 CFR §303.13, all early childhood intervention services must be provided:
- (1) to address the development of the whole child within the framework of the family;
- (2) in the context of natural learning activities;
- (3) according to a plan and with a frequency that is individualized to the parent and child; and
- (4) in the presence of the parent or other routine caregiver, with an emphasis on enhancing the family's capacity to meet the developmental needs of the child.
- (c) The contractor must provide a service coordinator and an interdisciplinary team for the child and family throughout the child's enrollment.
- (d) The contractor must make

- (b) The contractor must ensure that early childhood intervention services are appropriate, as determined by the IFSP team, and based on scientifically based research, to the extent practicable. In addition to the requirements in 34 CFR §303.13, early childhood intervention services must be provided:
- (1) according to a plan and with a frequency that is individualized to the parent and child to effectively address the outcomes established in the IFSP; and
- (2) in the presence of the parent or other routine caregiver, with an emphasis on enhancing the family's capacity to meet the developmental needs of the child.
- (c) Early Intervention services must:
- (1) address the development of the whole child within the framework of the family;
- (2) enhance the parent's competence to maximize the child's participation and functional abilities within daily routines and activities; and
- (3) be provided in the context of natural learning activities in order to assist caregivers to implement strategies that will increase child learning opportunities and participation in daily life.

service delivery.

reasonable efforts to provide flexible hours in programming in order to allow the parent or routine caregiver to participate. (e) The contractor must comply with all requirements in Subchapter B of this chapter (relating to Procedural Safeguards and Due Process Procedures) when planning and delivering early childhood intervention services.

- (d) The contractor must provide a service coordinator and an interdisciplinary team for the child and family throughout the child's enrollment.
- (e) The contractor must make reasonable efforts to provide flexible hours in programming in order to allow the parent or routine caregiver to participate.
- (f) The contractor must comply with all requirements in Subchapter B of this chapter (relating to Procedural Safeguards and Due Process Procedures) when planning and delivering early childhood intervention services.
- (g) Services must be monitored by the interdisciplinary team at least once every six months to determine:
- (1) what progress is being made toward achieving outcomes;
- (2) if services are reducing the child's functional limitations, promoting age appropriate growth and development, and are responsive to the family's identified goals for the child; and
- (3) whether modifications to the plan are needed.
- (h) Monitoring occurs as part of the IFSP review process and must be documented in the case record.

| §108.1107.Group Services. | §108.1107.Group Services. | The addition provides |
|---|---|---|
| Maria a and a alcitate and | (4) 0 | specific guidance for the |
| When early childhood intervention services are | (a) Group services must be: | size of the group and when |
| provided in a group setting, the | (1) recommended by the interdisciplinary team | group services can be documented on the IFSP. |
| parent or other routine | and documented on the IFSP only when | This language is not a new |
| caregiver must participate in | participating in the group will assist the child to | requirement because |
| group services. | reach the outcomes in the IFSP; | these requirements are |
| | | currently stated in the SST |
| | (2) planned as part of an IFSP that also contains | rule (§108.501). |
| | individual services; and | |
| | (3) limited to no more than four children and their | |
| | parent(s) or other routine caregiver(s) per service | |
| | provider. | |
| §108.1111 Service Delivery | §108.1111 Service Delivery Documentation | Method was changed to |
| Documentation Requirements | Requirements | techniques to prevent confusion. "Method" is |
| (5) a description of the | (5) a description of the techniques [methods] by | used on the IFSP form in a |
| methods by which the provider | which the provider engaged the family or routine | different context. This rule |
| engaged the family or routine | caregiver in activities to meet the developmental | change added an |
| caregiver in activities to meet | needs of the child. This includes: | additional requirement to |
| the developmental needs of the | | document the opportunity |
| child. This includes: | (A) coaching and instructions to the family or | for a parent or caregiver's |
| (A) coaching and instructions | caregiver; | return demonstration. This |
| to the family or caregiver; (B) discussing how activities | (B) discussing how activities apply to child and | documentation will provide evidence that a unique and |
| apply to child and family | family routines; and | effective service was |
| routines; and | , | provided to the child and |
| (C) modeling intervention | (C) modeling intervention techniques within | family. |
| techniques within everyday | everyday learning opportunities, including a | |
| learning opportunities; | description of the opportunity for the caregiver's | |
| | return demonstration; | |

| Subchapter P. | §108.1617.Transition of | §108.1617.Transition of Contractors. | The additional notice |
|---------------------------|--|--|---|
| Contract Requirements. | Contractors. (a) Unless prohibited by law, a contractor must provide at least 90 days' notice before terminating or non-renewing a contract to provide adequate time for DARS to provide statewide coverage by securing a new contractor. | (a) Unless prohibited by law, a contractor must provide at least 120 [90] days' notice before terminating or non-renewing a contract to provide adequate time for DARS to provide statewide coverage by securing a new contractor. | allows DARS to facilitate a smooth transition for families from the terminating contractor to the new contractor. |

Changes to the Sliding Fee Scale distribute incremental increases across income brackets on the sliding scale and simplify administration by expressing the applied percentage as a set dollar amount for all income ranges. The new sliding scale assigns a flat dollar amount to each income range based on a fixed percentage (ranging from 0.25 to 5 percent) of the mid-point of the income range based on the US Health and Human Services Federal Poverty Levels for 2014.

§108.1431. DARS ECI Sliding Fee Scale.

§108.1431. DARS ECI Sliding Fee Scale.

- (a) The contractor must provide the family with a copy of the DARS ECI sliding fee scale. Based on family size and income, placement on the DARS ECI sliding fee scale determines the family's maximum charge for services received in one calendar month.
- (b) The DARS ECI sliding fee scale assigns a set dollar amount as the maximum charge for adjusted income ranges less than or equal to 1000 percent of the federal poverty level. DARS calculates the maximum charge for each income range by applying a fixed percentage (ranging from 0.25 to 5 percent) to the mid-point income within each range based on the US Health and Human Services Federal Poverty Levels for 2014, as published in the January 24, 2014 edition of the Federal Register.
- (c) For children and families who enroll in ECI services on or after September 1, 2015, the family's maximum charge shall be pursuant to **Figure: 40 TAC §108.1431(c)** identified below:

Figure: 40 TAC §108.1431(c)

| DARS ECI Sliding Fee Scale for Families Enrolled On or After Septem | ber 1, 2015 |
|--|---|
| If the adjusted income is within the following % of the federal poverty guideline: | the maximum charge is equal to the following amounts or the full cost of services, whichever is less: |
| ≤ 100% | <u>\$0</u> |

| ≥100% to ≤150% | <u>\$5</u> |
|-----------------|--------------|
| ≥150% to ≤200% | <u>\$14</u> |
| > 200% to ≤250% | <u>\$28</u> |
| ≥ 250% to ≤300% | <u>\$45</u> |
| ≥ 300% to ≤350% | <u>\$67</u> |
| ≥ 350% to ≤400% | <u>\$124</u> |
| > 400% to ≤450% | <u>\$210</u> |
| > 450% to ≤500% | <u>\$313</u> |
| > 500% to ≤550% | <u>\$433</u> |
| > 550% to ≤600% | <u>\$474</u> |
| ≥ 600% to ≤650% | <u>\$515</u> |
| ≥ 650% to ≤700% | <u>\$557</u> |
| > 700% to ≤750% | <u>\$598</u> |
| > 750% to ≤800% | <u>\$639</u> |
| ≥ 800% to ≤850% | <u>\$680</u> |
| | |

| ≥ 850% to ≤900% | <u>\$722</u> |
|--|---|
| ≥ 900% to ≤950% | <u>\$763</u> |
| ≥ 950% to ≤1000% | <u>\$804</u> |
| > 1000% of the federal poverty guidelines | the full cost of services. |
| If the parent: | then the family monthly maximum payment equals the: |
| refuses to attest in writing that information about their third-party coverage, family size, and gross income is true and accurate | full cost of services. |

§108.1432. DARS ECI Sliding Fee Scale for Families Enrolled Before September 1, 2015.

For children and families enrolled in ECI services before September 1, 2015, the family's maximum charge shall be pursuant to the figure located in this section until the family's annual IFSP review. Thereafter, the family's maximum charge shall be pursuant to the figure located in 108.1431. This section shall expire on August 31, 2016.

| DARS ECI Sliding Fee Scale for Families Enrolled Before September 1, 2015 | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| If the adjusted income is within the following % of the federal poverty guideline: | then the maximum charge is: |
| <u>≤ 100%</u> | <u>\$0</u> |

| ≥100% to ≤150% | <u>\$3</u> |
|---|--|
| ≥150% to ≤200% | <u>\$5</u> |
| ≥ 200% to ≤250% | <u>\$10</u> |
| ≥ 250% to ≤350% | <u>\$20</u> |
| ≥ 350% to ≤400% | <u>\$55</u> |
| >400% | The full cost of service not to exceed 5% of family's adjusted income. |
| If the parent: | then the family monthly maximum payment equals the: |
| refuses to attest in writing that information about their third-party coverage, family size, and gross income is true and accurate. | full cost of services. |

§108.1431. DARS ECI Sliding Fee Scale.

(a) The family's placement on the DARS ECI sliding fee scale is based on family size and annual adjusted income. Placement determines the family's maximum charge for services received in one calendar month. The contractor must provide the family with a copy of the sliding fee scale.

(b) For children and families enrolled in ECI services before January 1, 2014, the family's maximum charge shall be pursuant to the figure located in this subsection until the family's annual IFSP review. Thereafter, the family's maximum charge shall be pursuant to the figure located in subsection (c) of this section.

Figure: 40 TAC §108.1431(b)

| DARS ECI Sliding Fee Scale for Families Enrolled Before January 1, 2014 | | |
|---|------------------|--|
| Adjusted Income by % Federal Poverty Guideline | Maximum Charge | |
| <u>≤ 100%</u> | \$0 | |
| >100% to 150% | \$3 | |
| >150% to 200% | \$5 | |
| > 200% to 250% | \$10 | |
| > 250% to 350% | \$20 | |
| > 350% to 450% | \$ 55 | |
| > 450% to 550% | \$85 | |

| > 550% to 650% | \$ 115 |
|---|-------------------|
| > 650% to 750% | \$ 145 |
| > 750% | \$175 |
| refuses to attest in writing that information about their third-party coverage, family size, and gross income is true and accurate. | \$ 175 |

(c) For children and families who enroll in ECI services on or after January 1, 2014, the family's maximum charge shall be pursuant to the figure located in this subsection.

Figure: 40 TAC §108.1431(c)

| DARS ECI Sliding Fee Scale for Families Enrolled On or After January 1, 2014 | | |
|--|---|--|
| If the adjusted income is within the following % of the federal poverty guideline: | then the maximum charge is: | |
| <u>≤ 100%</u> | \$0 | |
| >100% to ≤150% | \$3 | |
| >150% to ≤200% | \$5 | |
| > 200% to ≤250% | \$10 | |
| > 250% to ≤350% | \$20 | |
| > 350% to ≤400% | \$55 | |
| >400% | equal to the full cost of services, not to exceed | |

| | 5% of family's adjusted income |
|---|---|
| If the parent: | then the family monthly maximum payment equals the: |
| refuses to attest in writing that information about their third-party coverage, family size, and gross income is true and accurate. | full cost of services. |