



CHARLIE CRIST  
GOVERNOR

**Better Health Care for all Floridians**

THOMAS W. ARNOLD  
SECRETARY

August 10, 2010

Dear Medicaid Early Intervention Services Providers:

The purpose of this letter is to inform providers of a change in the policy regarding eligibility criteria as stated in the Early Intervention Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook, August 2007.

Effective July 1, 2010, the following criteria are now used to establish a developmental delay when an appropriate standardized test is used:

- A score that equals or exceeds 1.5 standard deviations below the mean in two or more developmental domains, or
- 2.0 standard deviations below the mean in one or more developmental domains.

In addition to the above, infant weight less than 1,200 grams at birth is now considered an established condition.

Also effective July 1, 2010, the requirement of a 25 percent delay or greater is to no longer be used when determining eligibility.

Children currently receiving services who do not meet the new criteria will not be terminated for services due to this change.

This new policy will be included in the next issue of the Florida Medicaid Early Intervention Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Gail Underwood at 850-412-4224 or Judy Taylor-Fischer at 850-412-4217.

Sincerely,

Beth Kidder, Chief  
Bureau of Medicaid Services

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cc: Medicaid Field Managers/EIS Liaisons

Lynn Marie Price, Bureau Chief, Department of Health

