

Medicaid DD Services Definitions and Provider Qualifications

The Medicaid Children's DD Program offers benefits for children ages birth to 18 years of age, based on the individual needs of the child, which include intervention, support and collaboration services. ITP offers services that are evidence-based treatments for children under three years of age, and does not offer the full array of DD benefits as defined under the Medicaid waiver.

Medicaid offers additional support and intervention services that are not included under IDEA Part C, but are available to families if they wish to access them. ITP informs families of all willing and qualified providers serving children under age three in Idaho to ensure they are aware of additional options that are not provided by ITP.

Families receive an individualized budget to use towards DD services once their child has been determined eligible for Children's DD services. Families have the choice to use their child's individual budget to access Medicaid services through two different pathways, the Traditional Model and Family-Directed Services Model.

TRADITIONAL MODEL

Families who choose to access services through the Traditional Model receive services from Medicaid developmental disability providers who are paid for providing defined Medicaid benefits. The Traditional Model includes State Plan HCBS Services and Waiver Services.

State Plan HCBS

All children birth to 18 years of age with developmental disabilities qualify for the following services:

- Respite
- Habilitative Supports
- Family Education

Children's DD Waiver

Children birth to 18 years of age with developmental disabilities who meet Institutional Level of Care (or ICF/ID) qualify for the following services:

- Respite
- Habilitative Supports
- Family Education
- Habilitative Intervention
- Family Training
- Interdisciplinary Training
- Therapeutic Consultation
- Crisis Intervention

Act Early Waiver

Children 3 to 7 years of age with developmental disabilities, meet ICF/ID level of care, and have autism or severe behaviors qualify for the following services:

- Respite (up to 10% of budget)
- Habilitative Supports
- Family Education
- Habilitative Intervention
- Family Training
- Interdisciplinary Training
- Therapeutic Consultation
- Crisis Intervention

Traditional DD Services Available for Children Age Birth to Three:

Family Education

Family education gives families an opportunity to receive general education related to their child's disability, as well as receive training on specific techniques to use with their child. Family education supports the early intervention evidenced-based model, which provides coaching to build the capacity of parents and caregivers to help them build skills, gain knowledge, and access resources they need to support their child. This service may address all areas of child development including social/emotional, cognitive, fine/gross motor, expressive/receptive language, and adaptive behaviors.

Example of Family Education (similar to ITP's practice):

Parents are having a difficult time understanding their child's needs. The Developmental Specialist provides education to the family regarding their child's development, and coaches them to learn techniques they can use with their child in areas where they are struggling.

Service Parameters:

- May occur in a group setting not to exceed five families.
- Must be provided to the parent/legal guardian, or family member acting as the caregiver.
- The child may or may not be present.

Medicaid Eligibility:

Children must meet Medicaid's developmental disabilities criteria, and be enrolled in State Plan Home and Community-Based Services as determined by Medicaid's Independent Assessment Provider. Children enrolled in the Children's DD Waiver are also eligible for Family Education.

Provider Qualifications:

Providers delivering family education must have a Birth - 3 Habilitative Intervention Certificate of Completion.

Respite

Respite gives parents or unpaid caregivers a break from their caregiving responsibilities.

Service Parameters:

- Children must be living with an unpaid caregiver.
- Cannot exceed 14 consecutive days.
- Cannot be provided on a long-term basis as a daily service so the unpaid caregiver can work.
- DDA's can provide group respite in the center with 1:6 ratio; community 1:3 ratio.
- Independent respite providers cannot deliver group respite.

Medicaid Eligibility:

Children must meet Medicaid's developmental disabilities criteria, and be enrolled in State Plan Home and Community-Based Services as determined by Medicaid's Independent Assessment Provider. Children enrolled in the Children's DD Waiver are also eligible for respite.

Provider Qualifications:

DDA providers or Independent respite providers are qualified to deliver respite.

The list of qualified providers is at www.childrensDDservices.dhw.idaho.gov, or the family can ask someone to enroll as a Medicaid independent respite provider.

Habilitative Supports

Habilitative supports provide an opportunity for children to participate in community activities with typical peers.

Service Parameters:

- Cannot supplant the role of the parent (parents just needing a break should access respite services).
- Child must be engaging with typical peers in community activities.
- DDA's can provide group supports with 1:3 ratio.

Medicaid Eligibility:

Children must meet Medicaid's developmental disabilities criteria, and be enrolled in State Plan Home and Community Based Services as determined by Medicaid's Independent Assessment Provider. Children enrolled in the Children's DD Waiver are also eligible for habilitative supports.

Provider Qualifications:

DDA providers are qualified to deliver habilitative supports. The list of qualified providers is at www.childrensDDservices.dhw.idaho.gov.

Interdisciplinary Training

Interdisciplinary training encourages professionals to collaborate on treatment plans and cross-train other disciplines in order to promote consistency when working with a child. This service supports ITP's early intervention evidence-based practice model, which involves multi-disciplinary teaming and co-visiting in order to promote consistency and collaboration for every child served.

Interdisciplinary training includes health and medication monitoring, positioning and transfer, intervention techniques, positive behavior support, and use of equipment.

Example of Interdisciplinary Training (similar to ITP's practice):

The child is receiving speech therapy and family education. The speech therapist has a co-visit with the developmental specialist to collaborate on the plan.

Service Parameters:

- Must be provided during the provision of a support or intervention service.
- Must be provided between a Developmental Specialist and other discipline. Training between the same discipline or between two non-waiver providers (OT, PT, SLP) is not billable.
- Two professionals may bill at the same time (for ITP this is a co-visit). The DS always bills the interdisciplinary training service, while the OT, PT, and SLP bill services through their discipline.
- The child must be present during interdisciplinary training.

Medicaid Eligibility:

Children must meet Medicaid's ICF/ID level of care criteria, and be enrolled in the Children's DD Waiver as determined by Medicaid's Independent Assessment Provider.

Provider Qualifications:

Providers delivering interdisciplinary training must have a Birth - 3 Habilitative Intervention Certificate of Completion.

Habilitative Intervention

Habilitative intervention is used to develop children's adaptive skills and address maladaptive behaviors in the home, community, and center. This service offers direct one-on-one intervention with the child, and requires Family Training to help the family learn and carry out the intervention techniques with their child.

Service Parameters:

- DDA's can provide group intervention with 1:3 ratio.
- A habilitative evaluation must be completed to develop objectives and intervention strategies prior to providing intervention.
 - Evaluations must include a skills assessment, functional behavioral analysis, review of all assessments and histories, and a professional summary interpreting the results and recommendations for treatment.
- Children must receive some level of family training.

Medicaid Eligibility:

Children must meet Medicaid's ICF/ID level of care criteria, and be enrolled in the Children's DD Waiver as determined by Medicaid's Independent Assessment Provider.

Provider Qualifications:

Providers delivering interdisciplinary training must have a Birth - 3 Habilitative Intervention Certificate of Completion.

Family Training

Family training is instruction to an individual family to help them learn intervention techniques to use with their child. Parents are required to receive family training when their child is receiving habilitative intervention to ensure the family participates in the direct intervention time with their child.

Service Parameters:

- Required when the child is receiving habilitative intervention.
- Cannot be provided in a group.

Medicaid Eligibility:

- Children must meet Medicaid's ICF/ID level of care criteria, and be enrolled in the Children's DD Waiver as determined by Medicaid's Independent Assessment Provider.

Provider Qualifications:

Providers delivering interdisciplinary training must have a Birth - 3 Habilitative Intervention Certificate of Completion.

Services for Intensive Needs

Additional waiver service options are available for children who have severe aggression, self-injury, or other dangerous behaviors, or who are at risk of or are experiencing a crisis. When intervention services are not meeting desired outcomes and behaviors are worsening, these services may be an option for a family to consider:

- Therapeutic Consultation
- Crisis Intervention

It is not anticipated that a child under the age of three would rise to this level of need; however, it is an option available to families and can be explored if the current intervention services are not improving the child's behavioral concerns.

FAMILY-DIRECTED SERVICES MODEL

Families who want a more hands-on and flexible approach in determining the types of services and supports their child needs may choose to access services through the Family-Directed Services Model. The flexibility in this model allows parents to choose, design and direct services outside of the menu of services available in the Traditional Model. It also requires the family to take more responsibility for coordination and management of their child's services if they wish to have more control over the process.

Family-Directed Services may be a good option for a family if they want to:

- Gain more control over the resources available for their child and have more freedom to create and access non-traditional services and supports.
- Manage an individualized budget based on their child's assessed needs.
- Recruit, hire and train their own service providers (families can contract with traditional service providers, friends, relatives, neighbors, etc.).
- Set wages for service providers based on a service and supports budget.
- Maintain records, monitor services and spending, set schedules, and submit timesheets for providers.
- Contract with non-traditional providers of services or supports.

For additional information on Medicaid DD services, refer to the Medicaid rules at IDAPA 16.03.10 "Medicaid Enhanced Plan Benefits".