

**STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT**

State/Territory: Georgia

**CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

- A. Target Group: Infants and Toddlers with established risk for developmental delay.
- B. Areas of State in which services will be provided:

X Entire State

\_\_\_ Only in the following geographic areas (authority of section 1915(g)(1) of the Act is invoked to provide services less than Statewide:

C. Comparability of Services

\_\_\_ Services are provided in accordance with section 1902(a)(10)(B) of the Act.

X Services are not comparable in amount, duration, and scope. Authority of section 1915(g)(1) of the Act is invoked to provide services without regard to the requirements of section 1902 (a)(10)(B) of the Act.

D. Definition of Services:

Early Intervention Case Management for infants and toddlers is an integral and necessary part of services designed to meet the developmental needs of each eligible child to enhance the child's development. Case management is an active, on-going process consisting of specific activities which are aimed at assisting parents on behalf of their child in gaining access to the early intervention services and to receive the rights and procedural safeguards that are authorized under the early intervention program.

The integral and necessary services and specific activities include:

1. Coordinating the referral and scheduling of evaluations and assessments;
2. Facilitating and participating in the development, review and evaluation of individualized family service plans (IFSP);

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3. Assisting parents or guardians in gaining access to early intervention services and other services identified in the IFSP for the benefit of the eligible child;
4. Assisting families on behalf of their child to identify and utilize available service providers and financial resources to obtain services and goods;
5. Coordinating and scheduling the child's appointments for early intervention services and other services, such as medical services for diagnostic and treatment purposes;
6. Facilitating the timely delivery of available services;
7. Informing families of the availability of advocacy services and support groups which will benefit the child;
8. For the benefit of the child, assist families in gaining access to the appropriate educational setting, day care or pre-school program or to other resources;
9. Arrange transportation services to all appointments made for the benefit of the eligible child; and,
10. Facilitating the development of a transition plan to pre-school services when appropriate.

E. Qualifications of Providers:

Enrollment will be accomplished in accordance with section 1902 (a)(23) of the Social Security Act. Enrollment is open to all providers who can meet the following requirements:

Providers must demonstrate knowledge and understanding about infants and toddlers who are eligible under Part H - Early Intervention Programs (EIP), the EIP regulations and the nature and scope of services available under Early Intervention, the system of payment for services and other pertinent information.

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1. Provider Qualifications:

- a. must have qualified case manager(s) and the capacity to provide the full range of management services to children with developmental delays;
- b. must meet applicable state and federal laws governing the participation of providers in the Medicaid program;
- c. must have demonstrated direct experience in the delivery of services to children with developmental delays or disabilities; and,
- d. must have established working relationships with other agencies (i.e., health departments, schools, Children's Medical Services, Cerebral Palsy Center, hospitals and clinics, etc.) to prevent duplication of services for the Medicaid population.

2. Case Management Staff Qualifications:

- a. must meet the qualifications of case managers under Part H of Public Law 99-457;
- b. have a Bachelor's degree in either social work, child and family studies, early childhood special education, psychology or a closely related field with two years of related experience; or
- c. have a Registered Nurse diploma with two years of related experience and licensed to practice in Georgia; or
- d. have a Master's degree in one of the above fields.
- e. Related experience must be working with children with special health care needs, developmental delay, or handicapping conditions.

F. The State assures that the provision of case management services will not restrict an individual's free choice of providers in violation of section 1902(a)(23) of the Act.

1. Eligible recipients will have free choice of the providers of case management services.
2. Eligible recipients will have free choice of the providers of other medical care under the plan.

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- G. Payment for case management services under the plan does not duplicate payments made to public agencies or private entities under other program authorities for this same purpose.

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