



Division Directive Number
4.010
Effective Date: August 1, 2002
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Bernard Simons

Bernard Simons, Director

Title: Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

Applies to: DD Regional Offices

Purpose: To prescribe the scope, duration and circumstances under which Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) will be authorized.

1. This policy addresses only early intensive behavioral intervention services: Applied Behavior Analysis.
2. This service applies to children who have autism spectrum disorders as defined by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th Ed., TR.
3. No Division funds will supplement this service for a child enrolled in First Steps or who is eligible to receive services through First Steps.
4. After the child exits the First Steps program, the Division will participate in funding early intensive behavioral intervention services when it is determined through the IHP process that the child could significantly benefit from such services. The Division will fund this service as a supplement to a child's formal public or private education program.
5. Consideration of the family's unique support needs, as well as the level of commitment which the family can pledge to the success of this program, will occur before funding is approved, as with all Department of Mental Health (DMH) programs. This is not an entitlement program.
6. An annual cap of \$10,000 applies to this service, regardless of DMH funding source. Funding for ABA services is time limited to 36 consecutive months and must begin prior to a child turning 10 years of age.

Note: ABA is not reimbursable as all or part of services in the Home and Community-Based Medicaid Waivers. Services will be funded as money is available, up to the level each child needs, and only to the extent the service is needed to supplement and coordinate with school-based program and funding.

7. Service coordinators will assist families in advocating for school-based programs funding for children ages three and older. It is expected that for children over the age of three schools will take the lead in funding this service. The service coordinator can assist in locating a consultant and implementers for both the home and school-based programs. Every effort should be made to work cooperatively with the schools to develop an ABA program that will follow the child from home to school and maximize the behavioral goals.