Did You Know?

• ECI serves children from birth to 36 months
• ECI programs cover all areas of the state
• Evaluations to determine ECI eligibility are at no cost to the family
• Translation and interpreter services are available
• ECI provides services to families at all income levels
• Families receiving services from other providers/ agencies may still be eligible for ECI services

What is the value of ECI services?

ECI's approach:
• Specializes in infants and toddlers
• Provides services individualized to the needs of each child and family
• Involves families in services that incorporate therapeutic intervention strategies in their child’s daily routines
• Utilizes an interdisciplinary team of licensed or credentialed professionals
• Includes measurable outcomes
• Provides services in the home and community settings
• Provides case management for all families
• Assist families in transitioning to other services after the child turns three

Who is eligible for ECI services?

ECI determines eligibility for infants and toddlers living in Texas based on:

Developmental delay
Children with a developmental delay that affects functioning in one or more areas of development, including cognitive, communication, motor, social-emotional and adaptive/self-help.

Medically diagnosed condition
Children with a medically diagnosed condition with a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay. (Medical diagnoses list located on back of brochure.)

Auditory or visual impairment
Children who have an auditory or visual impairment as defined by the Texas Education Agency. (Contact your local ECI program for more information.)

What are some examples of ECI services?

• Audiology and vision services
• Nursing and nutrition services
• Physical therapy
• Occupational therapy
• Speech-language therapy
• Specialized skills training
• Family education and training
• Case management
• Assistive technology

How are ECI services determined?

After referral, an interdisciplinary team conducts a comprehensive evaluation to determine eligibility. If the child is eligible for services, the team, along with the parents, develops an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). In developing the IFSP, all pertinent medical information is considered. With written parental consent, the IFSP can be shared with the physician.

Who provides ECI services?

Licensed or credentialed professional staff including:
• Speech Language Pathologists
• Physical Therapists
• Occupational Therapists
• Psychologists
• Registered Nurses and Dietitians
• Social Workers and Counselors
• Credentialed Early Intervention Specialists (EIS) college graduates who complete a state approved training program

How are ECI services funded?

ECI receives federal, state and local funds, as well as, collecting Medicaid, CHIP, private insurance and family fees.

The following services are provided at no cost to families regardless of income. However families with insurance will be asked for permission to bill for reimbursement.
• Evaluation and/or assessment
• IFSP development
• Case management
• Translation and interpreter services
• Services for children eligible due to auditory or visual impairments
• Services for children in foster care

Family Cost Share
ECI calculates a family's monthly maximum payment based on the family’s income and the size of the family. Families with more than one child enrolled in services will only pay one monthly maximum payment. The monthly maximum payment will be $0 if a family’s adjusted income is at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level or if a family receives Medicaid. No family will be denied services due to an inability to pay. For more information or to view the sliding fee scale, visit the DARS website at: www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/familycostshare.shtml

How do you make a referral?

• Call or fax information about your concerns for a child to your local ECI program.
• Give the contact information to the family and recommend that they call the ECI program.

Results of a referral can only be provided to referral sources with written parental consent.

How do you find a program in your area?

• Call the DARS Inquiries Line at 1-800-628-5115, or
• Go to the DARS/ECI website search page at: www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/searchprogram.asp

How can you help a family learn about ECI?

ECI Videos
Visit www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/videos/index.shtml
ECI has two short videos to help people better understand ECI’s service model.

“Texas ECI: Family to Family”
A 10 minute video offering a special perspective for families who have been or who may be referred to ECI and who would like to learn more about what to expect. Four families talk openly about their ECI experience.

“About Texas ECI”
An 8 minute informational video offers an overview of ECI’s unique model of services.

If a family wants to see a video but does not have access to the internet, have them contact their local ECI program.

ECI’s Resource Guide:
www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/resources/index.shtml
This site contains resources on topics such as Child Care, Developmental Information, Parent Support, Training and much more that will help answer many questions you may have.

ECI and Healthcare Professionals
As a healthcare professional, families look to you for guidance regarding their child’s growth and development. ECI wants to work with you to help families get the services they need for their infants and toddlers. For over 30 years, ECI has provided services to families at all income levels. Translation and interpreter services are available to families regardless of income. However families with insurance will be asked for permission to bill for reimbursement. ECI receives federal, state and local funds, as well as, collecting Medicaid, CHIP, private insurance and family fees. The following services are provided at no cost to families regardless of income. However families with insurance will be asked for permission to bill for reimbursement.

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