

125A.027 INTERAGENCY EARLY INTERVENTION COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES.

Subdivision 1. **Additional duties.** (a) The governing boards of the interagency early intervention committees are responsible for developing and implementing interagency policies and procedures to coordinate services at the local level for children with disabilities ages three to 21 under guidelines established by the state interagency committee under section 125A.023, subdivision 4. Consistent with the requirements in this section and section 125A.023, the governing boards of the interagency early intervention committees shall organize as a joint powers board under section 471.59 or enter into an interagency agreement that establishes a governance structure.

(b) The governing board of each interagency early intervention committee as defined in section 125A.30, paragraph (a), which may include a juvenile justice professional, shall:

(1) identify and assist in removing state and federal barriers to local coordination of services provided to children with disabilities;

(2) identify adequate, equitable, and flexible use of funding by local agencies for these services;

(3) implement policies that ensure a comprehensive and coordinated system of all state and local agency services, including multidisciplinary assessment practices, for children with disabilities ages three to 21;

(4) use a standardized written plan for providing services to a child with disabilities developed under section 125A.023;

(5) access the coordinated dispute resolution system and incorporate the guidelines for coordinating services at the local level, consistent with section 125A.023;

(6) use the evaluation process to measure the success of the local interagency effort in improving the quality and coordination of services to children with disabilities ages three to 21 consistent with section 125A.023;

(7) develop a transitional plan for children moving from the interagency early childhood intervention system under sections 125A.259 to 125A.48 into the interagency intervention service system under this section;

(8) coordinate services and facilitate payment for services from public and private institutions, agencies, and health plan companies; and

(9) share needed information consistent with state and federal data practices requirements.

Subd. 2. **Appropriate and necessary services.** (a) Parents, physicians, other health care professionals including school nurses, and education and human services providers jointly must determine appropriate and necessary services for eligible children with disabilities ages three to 21. The services provided to the child under this section must conform with the child's standardized written plan. The governing board of an interagency early intervention committee must provide those services contained in a child's individual education plan and those services for which a legal obligation exists.

(b) Nothing in this section or section 125A.023 increases or decreases the obligation of the state, county, regional agency, local school district, or local agency or organization to pay for education, health care, or social services.

(c) A health plan may not exclude any medically necessary covered service solely because the service is or could be identified in a child's individual family service plan, individual education plan, a plan established under section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or a student's individual health plan. This paragraph reaffirms the obligation of a health plan company to provide or pay for certain medically necessary covered services, and encourages a health plan company to coordinate this care with any other providers of similar services. Also, a health plan company may not exclude from a health plan any medically necessary covered service such as an assessment or physical examination solely because the resulting information may be used for an individual education plan or a standardized written plan.

Subd. 3. Implementation timeline. By July 1, 2000, the individual interagency intervention plan must be available and by January 1, 2001, all governing boards of interagency early intervention committees statewide must implement a coordinated service system for children up to age five with disabilities consistent with the requirements of this section and section 125A.023 and the evaluation results from the demonstration projects under section 125A.023, subdivision 5. Children with disabilities up to the age of 21 shall be eligible for coordinated services and their eligibility to receive such services under this section shall be phased in over a four-year period as follows:

- (1) July 1, 2001, children up to age nine become eligible;
- (2) July 1, 2002, children up to age 14 become eligible; and
- (3) July 1, 2003, children up to age 21 become eligible.

Subd. 4. Responsibilities of school and county boards. (a) It is the joint responsibility of school and county boards to coordinate, provide, and pay for appropriate services, and to facilitate payment for services from public and private sources. Appropriate service for children eligible under section 125A.02 and receiving service from two or more public agencies of which one is the public school must be determined in consultation with parents, physicians, and other education, medical health, and human services providers. The services provided must be in conformity with an Individual Interagency Intervention Plan (IIP) for each eligible child ages 3 to 21.

(b) Appropriate services include those services listed on a child's IIP. These services are those that are required to be documented on a plan under federal and state law or rule.

(c) School and county boards shall coordinate interagency services. Service responsibilities for eligible children, ages 3 to 21, shall be established in interagency agreements or joint powers board agreements. In addition, interagency agreements or joint powers board agreements shall be developed to establish agency responsibility that assures that coordinated interagency services are coordinated, provided, and paid for, and that payment is facilitated from public and private sources. School boards must provide, pay for, and facilitate payment for special education services as required under sections 125A.05 and 125A.06. County boards must provide, pay for, and facilitate payment for those programs over which they have service and fiscal responsibility as referenced in section 125A.023, subdivision 3, paragraph (d), clause (1).

History: 1998 c 397 art 11 s 3; 1998 c 398 art 3 s 3; 1999 c 123 s 4; 2000 c 489 art 3 s 8; 1Sp2001 c 6 art 3 s 6