



Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services

First Steps

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Dear First Steps Stakeholders:

During the 2019 legislative session, the Indiana General Assembly included an additional budget appropriation for the First Steps program of \$6.6 million. Pursuant to section 2 of House Enrolled Act 1542, First Steps must use 50 percent of this additional appropriation, or approximately \$3.3 million, to support increased provider rates. HEA 1452 also directs First Steps to distribute 40 percent of the additional appropriation to System Point of Entries' contracts and no more than 10 percent to the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services for infrastructure expenses.

Effective July 1, 2019, the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) is increasing First Steps reimbursement rates as follows below. **The new rates will apply to all dates of service on and after July 1.** The Central Reimbursement Office (CRO) is working to update the billing system with these new rates, as quickly as possible. It is anticipated that the updates will be complete by the end of July.

If possible, providers are encouraged to delay July billing until **at least July 27, 2019**, to avoid the need to reprocess claims. However, once the billing system updates are complete, the CRO will run a report to identify providers who billed before the new rates were available in the system. The CRO will manually resubmit those claims, reprocess them to adjust for the new rates, and providers will be paid the difference.

| Service type | Offsite direct child treatment rate | CPT code | Offsite evaluation and assessment rate | CPT code |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Developmental therapy | \$16.70 | 97127 | \$16.70 | 96112 and 96113 |
| Developmental therapy associate | \$16.70 | 97127 | n/a | n/a |
| Nutrition therapy | \$22.00 | All nutrition treatment codes | \$22.00 | All nutrition evaluation codes |
| Occupational therapy | \$25.14 | 97535 | | |
| Occupational therapy | \$25.12 | 97530 | | |
| Occupational therapy | \$22.65 | All remaining OT treatment codes | \$24.30 | All OT evaluation codes |
| Occupational therapy assistant | \$16.24 | All OT treatment codes | n/a | n/a |
| Physical therapy | \$24.15 | 97112 | | |
| Physical therapy | \$25.12 | 97530 | | |
| Physical therapy | \$23.55 | All remaining PT treatment codes | \$24.30 | All PT evaluation codes |
| Physical therapy assistant | \$16.86 | All PT treatment codes | n/a | n/a |
| Social work services | \$17.00 | All social work treatment codes | | All social work evaluation codes |
| Speech therapy | \$20.25 | All speech therapy treatment codes | \$20.25 | All speech therapy evaluation codes |
| Family training on child development | \$16.00 | T1027 | n/a | n/a |

