



**PROPOSED AMENDMENT  
PERVASIVE DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER (PDD)  
MEDICAID WAIVER PROGRAM**

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services proposes to amend the PDD waiver program to include the following technical changes:

**1. Enhanced Educational Qualifications and Rate for Line Therapists:**

- An additional new qualification level for an Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention (EIBI) Line Therapist will require an Associate Degree or two years post-secondary education.
- The higher-educational requirement should assist providers with recruiting individuals who have a greater ability to understand the concepts of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) therapy.
- The new staff qualifications will result in two staff qualification levels and reimbursement rates:  
Level 1 (Existing): High School Diploma  
Rate: \$13.58 per authorized hour  
Level 2 (New): Associate Degree or two years post-secondary education  
Rate: \$16.00 per authorized hour
- The addition of the second level of education should not affect the number of service hours authorized.
- The existing line therapists should not be affected.
- The new rate and qualifications should help improve the access of services to the PDD children.

**2. Prioritizing Children who received ABA therapy through Baby Net Services:**

- Children who are receiving ABA therapy and aging out of the Baby Net Program will be prioritized and awarded PDD waiver slots to continue receiving therapy services.

**3. Quality Assurance (QA):**

- Updates to the quality assurance waiver process will be made to help improve outcomes and increase accountability.
- These QA changes are not expected to impact consumer delivery.

Projected Submission Date: July 1, 2012

Requested Approval Date: One month following CMS approval

