



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

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services is revising the proposed amendment previously announced to the public on May 15, 2012. The following revisions are identified below in *bold italics*.

**1. Enhanced Provider 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 *or two years of EIBI line therapy work experience*.
- 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: \$14.00 per authorized hour**
  - Level 2 (New): Associate Degree, two years post-secondary education, or two years of EIBI line therapy work experience.
    - Rate: \$16.00 per authorized hour
- The addition of the new qualification level 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: *August 1, 2012*

Requested Approval Date: One month following CMS approval