

Journey into Early Steps & CMS Network



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Authority

Early Steps

- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (I.D.E.A), Part C – 20 USC 1431-1443
- Code of Federal Regulations – 34 Part 303
- Florida Statutes 391 and 393

Children's Medical Services Network

- Chapter 391, 409, 383, F.S.
- Titles V, XIX, XXI of the Social Security Act



Eligibility

- Age birth to three
- Developmental delay as established by standard assessment
- Established condition
- All incomes



Early Steps Eligibility Criteria

- Developmental Delay
 - 1.5 standard deviations below the standard mean in one or more domains
 - At least a 25% delay in terms of months of age
- -Developmental Domains
 - Communication
 - Self-help/Adaptive
 - Cognitive
 - Physical (including fine and gross motor and vision and hearing)
 - Social/Emotional.



Eligibility Criteria

- Established conditions fall into one of the following categories:
 - a) Genetic and metabolic disorders;
 - b) Neurological disorder;
 - c) Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD);
 - d) Severe attachment disorder;
 - e) Significant sensory impairment (vision/hearing)



Examples of Established Conditions

- Down Syndrome
- Fragile X Syndrome
- Prader-Willi Syndrome
- Cerebral Palsy
- Spina Bifida
- Mitochondrial Disorder
- Auditory Neuropathy
- Septo-Optic Dysplasia



Eligibility Practices

- Established conditions do not require an additional evaluation
- Licensed physician or other health care practitioner provides documentation of the condition.



CMS Network Eligibility Criteria

- Ages 0-21
- Generally under 200% FPL
- Has a special health care need as determined through screening instrument or evaluation
 - Physical, developmental, behavioral, educational issues
 - Review of need for health services and functional issues



CMS Network Eligibility Groups

- Medicaid
 - CMS is a managed care option for children with special health care needs
- Title XXI
 - CMS is a Kidcare component for children with special health care needs
- “Safety Net”
 - Limited services
 - Uninsured, underinsured, some groups over 200% FPL



CMS Network Totals

- Approximately 67,000 children annually
 - Estimated 1,100 children with ASD
- Per capita expenditure varies based on acuity of the child

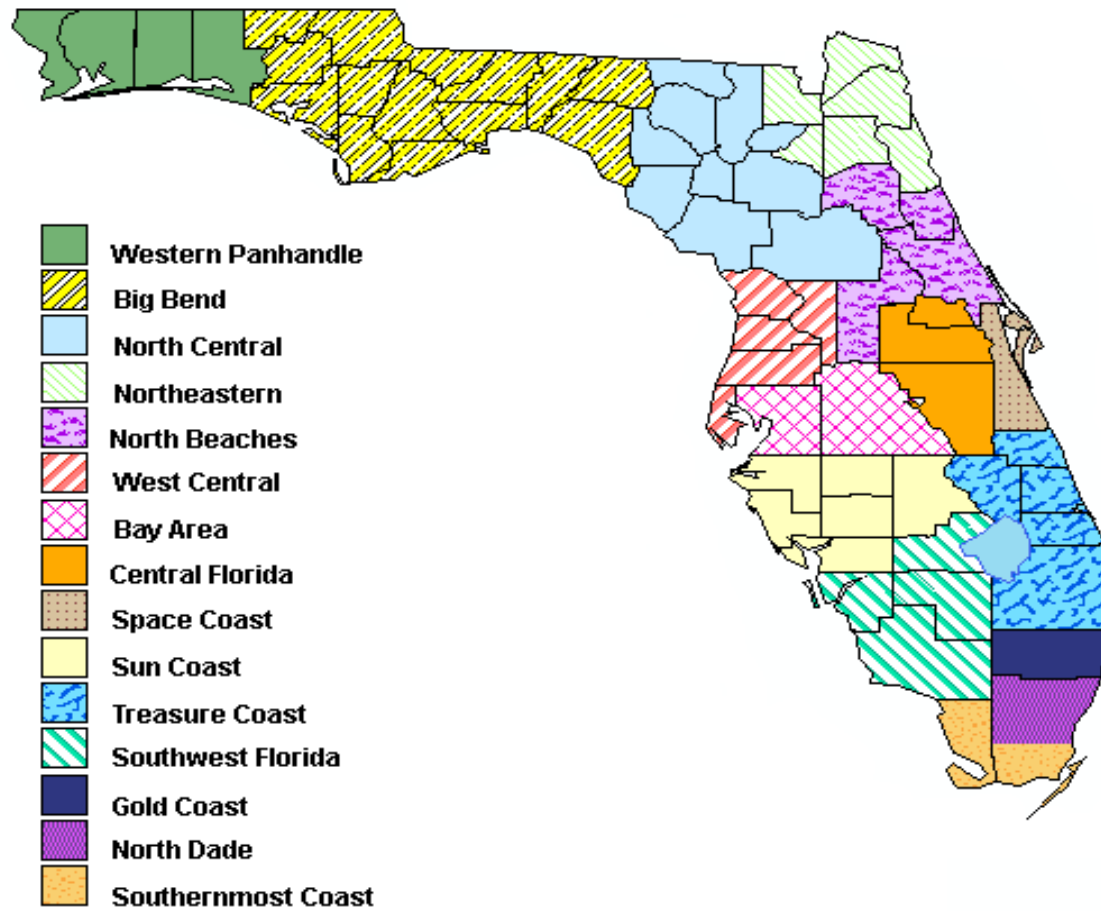


Early Steps Key Components

- 15 local Early Steps organizations contract with multiple community service providers
- Individualized Family Support Plan
 - Negotiated services between family and team based on developmental goals
 - Establishes timeframes for services
 - Establishes authorization for services
- Provide services in natural environment, recognizing everyday routines
- Service coordination
- Transition to school system at age 3



Florida's Early Steps Regions





Types of Services

- Physical, occupational, speech therapy
- Hearing and vision services
- Assistive technology
- Infant/Toddler developmental specialist services
- Other early intervention services that will promote the developmental goals for the child
- Assure each child has a medical home



Children Served in FY 06-07

- 2006-07
 - 37,691 children
 - 224 children identified with ASD
- 2007-08
 - 38,251 children
 - 261 identified with ASD
- Majority of children enter Early Steps based on concerns about developmental delay



Funding

- Commercial insurance, Medicaid and other community resources are utilized along with Part C monies to ensure service delivery
- Part C funding considered payer of last resort to other federal and state funds



FY 2007-08 Appropriation

- Developmental Evaluation & Intervention/Part C
 - \$16,769,052 general revenue
 - \$ 3,817, 556 tobacco trust fund
 - \$23,275,627 federal Part C
 - \$ 3,800,000 welfare transition trust fund (non-recurring)

 - Total: \$47,662,235
- Average annual Early Steps budgeted amount per child - \$1261
- Medicaid reimbursement rates
 - Therapies at \$33.94 per ½ hour
 - Behavior Analysis session at \$50 per hour



Supports

- Convened an Autism Spectrum Disorders Guidance Workgroup to make recommendations to the Early Steps State Office for the creation of screening, assessment and practice guidelines for children with autism spectrum disorders.



CMS Network Services

- Use Medicaid benefit package & policies
 - Doesn't include waivers, except for palliative care
 - Payment at Medicaid rates
 - Includes dental & mental health services
- Pharmacy benefit management
- Care Coordination
- Palliative Care



CMS Provider Network

- Statewide Health Care Network – over 5,000 providers & 22 area offices
- Approve providers using pediatric criteria where available
 - Health care providers, including therapists
 - Facilities
 - DME, Home Health, etc.
- Regional referral centers
- Out-of-state when necessary