

- b. speech pathology services;
- c. occupational therapy;
- d. physical therapy; and
- e. psychological services.

2. Services rendered in special purpose facilities/inclusive child care and center-based special purpose facilities shall be excluded from this rate reduction.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 30:800 (April 2004), amended LR 31:2030 (August 2005), LR 35:69 (January 2009), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 37:1599 (June 2011).

### **§7107. EarlySteps Reimbursement**

A. EarlySteps (Part C of IDEA). The reimbursement for health services rendered to infants and toddlers with disabilities who are 0 to 3 years old shall be the lower of billed charges or 75 percent of the rate (a 25 percent reduction) in effect on January 31, 2005.

B. EarlySteps (Part C of IDEA). Effective for dates of service on or after September 1, 2008, the reimbursement for certain health services rendered in a natural environment to infants and toddlers with disabilities who are 0 to 3 years old shall be increased by 25 percent of the rate in effect on August 31, 2008.

1. For purposes of these provisions, a natural environment may include a child's home or settings in the community that are natural or normal for the child's age and peers who have no disability (i.e. childcare facility, nursery, preschool program, or playground).

2. The following services rendered in a natural environment shall be reimbursed at the increased rate:

- a. occupational therapy;
- b. physical therapy;
- c. speech language pathology services;
- d. audiology services; and
- e. psychological services.

C. Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2011, the reimbursement for certain Medicaid-covered health services rendered in the EarlySteps Program shall be reduced by 2 percent of the rate in effect on December 31, 2010.

1. The following services rendered in the natural environment shall be reimbursed at the reduced rate:

- a. audiology services;