

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Notice of Intent to Revise the Annual Application under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Notice of Public Hearing

The Commissioner of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) in accordance with the public participation requirements of 34 CFR §§303.110-303.113, hereby gives notice of his intent to revise, and offers an opportunity for review of the proposed revisions to, DDS's Annual Application under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Public Act 09-3 of the September 2009 Special Session of the Connecticut General Assembly requires the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to amend the Birth-to-Three regulations (Sections 17a-248-1 to 17a-248-14, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies) to: (1) increase fees certain families pay to participate in the Birth-to-Three program by 60% and (2) eliminate the two months of service following enrollment that, by regulation, are currently provided without a fee. Public Act 09-3 also requires group and individual health insurance policies to double the maximum annual coverage to \$6,400 per child and the aggregate, lifetime benefit to \$19,200 for Birth-to-Three services. A revision to the Annual Application under Part C of the IDEA requires notice and an opportunity for public comment. In addition to the required changes pursuant to Public Act 09-3 of the 2009 September Special Session, technical changes to the Birth to Three Regulations are being proposed including adopting the definition of "parent" that is used in the IDEA and changes reflecting the move from a regional system to a centralized system.

Copies of the proposed, revisions to the Annual Application under Part C of the IDEA are available on the Birth-to-Three website www.birth23.org under "What's New" and the DDS website www.ct.gov/dds. Also, they may be obtained from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), 460 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106 ATTN: Rod O'Connor; by calling Rod O'Connor at (860) 418-6130; or by e-mailing rod.oconnor@ct.gov.

Public hearings concerning the proposed revisions of the Annual Application under Part C of the IDEA will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2009 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Room 2C of the Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. Directions to the Legislative Office Building may be found at <http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/menu/DrivingDirections.asp>

Persons wishing to sign-up for the 2:00 p.m. public hearing may do so beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Atrium of the Legislative Office Building. Persons wishing to sign-up for the 5:00 p.m. public hearing may do so beginning at 4:00 p.m. in the Atrium of the Legislative Office Building. Persons testifying at the public hearings will be called in

order of sign-up and will have three minutes in which to testify. Unofficial sign-up sheets have no standing with DDS.

Persons wishing to present their views and comments regarding the revised Annual Application under Part C of the IDEA are invited to do so in writing by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 20, 2009. Written comments regarding the revised Annual Application under Part C of the IDEA may be sent to the Department of Developmental Services, 460 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106 ATTN: Rod O'Connor, Legislative and Regulations Analyst; may be e-mailed to rod.oconnor@ct.gov or may be submitted at either of the public hearings. Written, oral or e-mailed comments received by the November 20, 2009 deadline will be considered by DDS and may result in modifications to the revised Annual Application under Part C of the IDEA that will be forwarded to the Office of Special Education Programs of the U.S. Department of Education.

Peter H. O'Meara
Commissioner