



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF EARLY LEARNING

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Date: 5/9/18  
To: ESIT Stakeholders  
From: Laurie Thomas, ESIT Administrator  
Re: Suspending Services

ESIT would like to share the following information:

It was announced at the LLA meetings in February that children could no longer be exited from services due to no contact with the family and that IFSPs could not be closed without a signature from the parent. This was based on guidance ESIT received from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP.) Since that announcement, our efforts to get more clarification in order to provide information to the field has resulted in conflicting guidance from OSEP and one of our national TA centers.

Until we receive consistent guidance, please continue your original practice around file closure until further notice. We will continue our efforts to get official, clear guidance from OSEP and will let the field know when we have more information.

This is also related to the updated guidance regarding reimbursement from school districts for FRC services. Please do continue to add children to the child count in order to bill school district for IFSPs for up to three months when efforts are being made to contact the family by the FRC. Once that three months is up, discontinue billing the SD and continue with your typical practice for closing the file.

We understand that the change in guidance is frustrating and our intention was to be in compliance and be transparent with the information we had. We apologize for the confusion this has caused with our provider agencies and school districts.

When we receive consistent and clear guidance from OSEP an ESIT guidance document will be provided outlining a clear process for addressing children that are lost to follow-up with a completed IFSP.

Please accept our apologies for any confusion this may have created.

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