



# Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) for Infants and Toddlers

## ICC Fiscal Committee Agenda

Thursday, November 9, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Amber Neubauer, Chair (Present)  
Dana Hutchings, ICC Member (Absent)  
Kelly Lalan, ICC Member (Absent)  
Sylvia Acosta (Absent)  
Kate Dobler (Absent)  
Lauren Encinas (Absent)  
Senator Rosanna Galbaldon (Absent)  
Leo Huppert (Present)  
Jennifer Ibanez (Absent)

Kristin Mancuso (Absent)  
Peggy Peixoto (Present)  
Cristina Renteria (Absent)  
Jenee Sisnroy (Present)  
Gini Britton (Present)  
Lisa Casteel, AzEIP Staff (Present)  
Jeremiah Hale, AzEIP Staff (Present)  
Amanda Honeywood, AzEIP Staff (Present)  
Jessica Love, AzEIP Staff (Present)

### Agenda

1. Call to Order at 10:05 am
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Public Member Notice was read
4. Minute Approval from September 7, 2023, meeting
  - Unable to vote for approval of minutes due to not meeting quorum.
5. Discussion Items/topics
  - A. AHCCCS issues
    - Providers are seeing a rate increase on EOBs from AHCCCS as of October 1st. Amber wants to know if AzEIP could work with AHCCCS on tiering issues. AHCCCS pays based on the AzEIP rate but they do it by county and in some counties the rates are significantly different from the AzEIP tiers, particularly for Tier 2 and Tier 3. Jeremiah will share the new AzEIP rates with AHCCCS for consideration in the spring and can add the tier issues and OT and PT rate matching into the discussion.
  - B. AzEIP Fiscal Responsibility and Timely Reimbursement
    - The letter to DES leadership did get approved by the ICC. It was agreed that the letter will be sent from the Fiscal Committee with a statement of approval by the full ICC.
  - C. 2023 AzEIP Rate Rebase Study
    - The current Rate Rebase Study with Milliman is progressing. AAPPD and the provider group met with Milliman last week about how they develop rates using the BLS data including the codes they used and blending different codes to determine the base wage

for the rates. Jenee stated IDEA Part C has so many different regulations for therapists providing EI services that are above and beyond that of a therapist in a clinical setting, including more requirements that are not billable.

- The AAPPD provider group looked at the different job types in the BLS and will be sending feedback to Milliman today. A summary around additional requirements that will need to be considered in the rate buildup will also be included with the data sent.

D. Feeding Services - ArSHA (Arizona Speech-Language Hearing Association)

- Amber is on the ArSHA committee and shared that Feed Matters has reached out to the ArSHA group to support issues families have had with getting needed services. Evaluations were identified as a particular area of concern. Feeding Matters has done work around ICD-10 codes improvement for feeding services and an assessment tool was shared with the committee. <https://www.feedingmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Toolkit.pdf>
- The committee will follow-up and do some research into the details of the work Feed Matters is doing and see how AzEIP can support that work. Gini will look into the evaluation issues from the AHCCCS perspective.

E. APEP (AHCCCS Provider Enrollment Portal) Process

- The ICC chair asked if the fiscal committee could help with the APEP process. The committee discussed how they may be able to support this topic. The process is not smooth and very time consuming to add new providers. AAPPD might be able to support this and might be a better platform due to the broader reach. Leo will reach out to Rachelle and Brandi for assistance and let them know that the ICC Fiscal Committee can support in any way needed.

F. ICC Administrative Support and Family Participation Reimbursement Options

- AzEIP is looking to move forward with this and is asking the ICC fiscal committee to consider this and put together a proposal. AzEIP is considering how to provide support in two areas. The first being administrative support for the subcommittees with duties like note taking or other needed support. The second would be to support families to participate in the ICC. There was discussion around travel reimbursement, child care, and other things that make it difficult for families to participate.
- Peggy shared the Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs is working on this, as well. There should be a way to work together or share resources. Research into how they reimburse families would be invaluable. They have just hired a new person who will start in January and may be able to attend a future meeting.
- Jenee states families have been reimbursed in the past although it was complicated. Jeremiah will look into what will be required to go through the procurement process.
- Part B can also be asked about what they are doing to reimburse families for this type of participation.

G. 2023 Plans & Goals - AzEIP Support Needs

- a. Fiscal Committee Membership
  - i. No discussion
- b. New Funding Sources
  - i. The work group has looked into what sources other states are utilizing but has nothing new to share at this time.
- c. Professional Development Opportunities
  - i. No discussion

H. Parking Lot Items

- a. AzEIP Eligibility Changes Subcommittee
  - i. Legislative environment is not looking good moving forward to fund this. This topic will remain on the back burner for now.

6. Action/follow up

- Peggy will invite the new person leading CYSHCN to a future fiscal committee meeting.
- Jeremiah will get together a preliminary list of what would be needed to compensate families.
- Gini Britton will look into the evaluation issues with Feeding Services from the AHCCCS perspective.
- Leo will reach to AAPPD for support with the APEP process.
- Leo will reach out to Michelle Thorne for support with Family Participation concerns.

7. Public Comment

- None

8. Confirm next meeting date/time: January 11, 2024 10:00 am

9. Adjourn at 11:06 am