



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona



Arizona Early Intervention Program Fiscal Overview

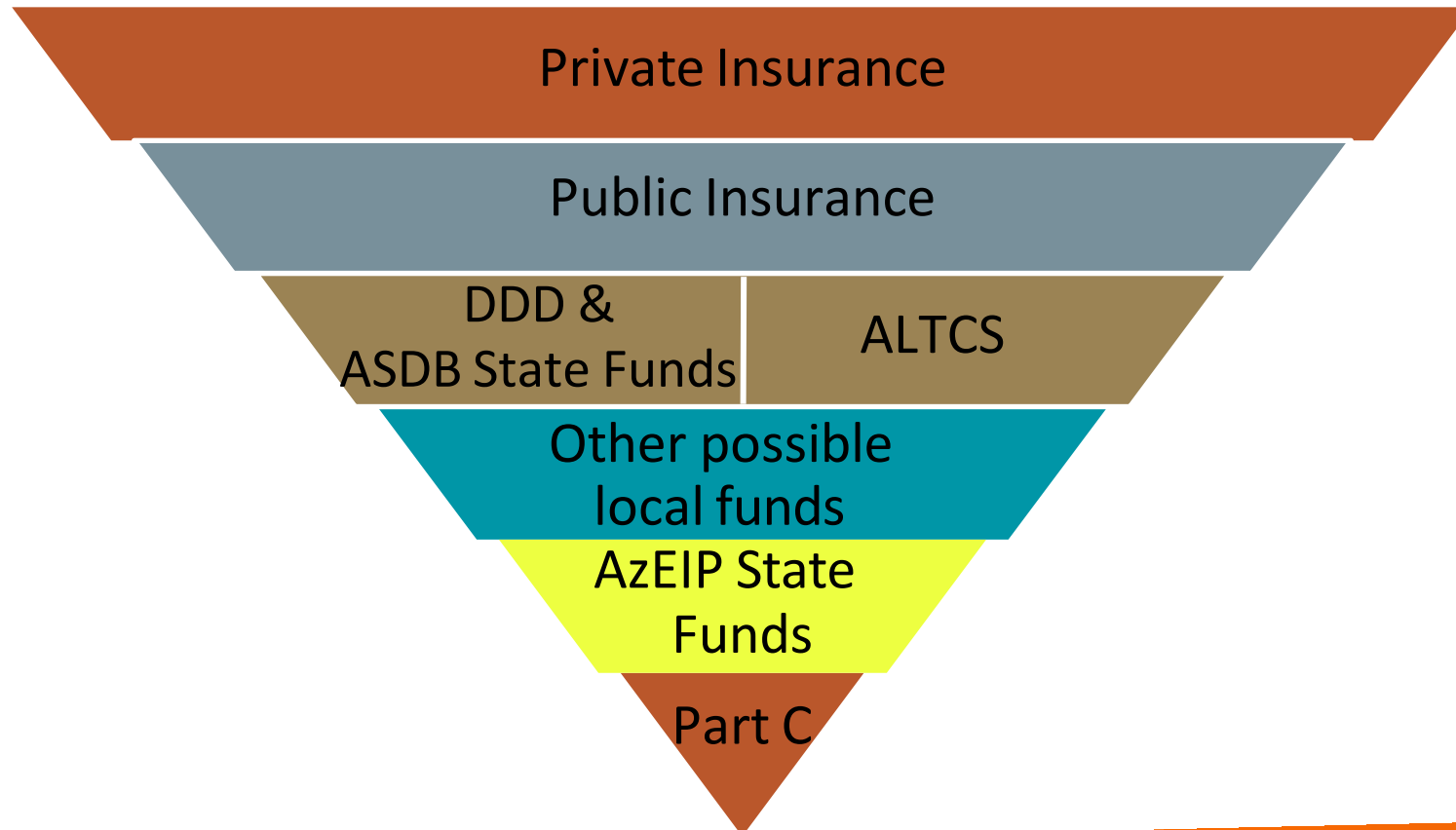
State Service Delivery Structure

Early Intervention Programs and Service Providing Agencies

- State divided in 23 regions
 - Each region has at least one EIP which includes three Service Providing Agencies (SPAs)
 - Contracted Agency
 - ADES / Division of Developmental Disabilities
 - Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind
 - Regions are determined by zip code
 - 9 regions in and around Maricopa County have two EIPs in each region (round robin determines placement at referral)

Payor of Last Resort Requirements

- IDEA Part C Regulation
- All other funding sources must be utilized prior to accessing Part C funds



DDD Eligibility

- If families consent to the use of insurance, they are sent to DDD for eligibility determination
- DDD – 5 diagnosis for eligibility
- Three types of DDD eligibility
 - State only
 - Targeted Support Coordination (TSC)
 - AZ Long-term Care System (ALTCS)

Private or Public Insurance

- Contracted Provider Agencies Bill Medicaid and Private Insurance if family has consented to their use
 - Under IDEA, Part C regulations, families cannot be required to apply for Medicaid or consent to use of any insurance or health plan that they may have
- Families are not charged copays or deductibles
- After billing insurance/health plan, the contractor billing staff enter results in the AzEIP data system where all invoicing occurs
- AzEIP will pay if:
 - AHCCCS denies
 - Private insurance denies or pays an amount less than the AzEIP rate

Billing Basics

- Fee for Service Approach
 - Rates determined by discipline and tiers
 - Discipline – SC, DSI, OT, PT, SLP, PSY, SW
 - DSI and SW rates vary based on education level
 - Tiers based on where the zip code is located within the region
 - 4 Tier levels – Base, 1, 2, 3
 - One unit = 60 minutes
 - Rates are based on an independent rebase study that is required once every 5 years to establish a benchmark
 - The AzEIP rates are determined as a percentage of the benchmark rate

Zip Code Tier Table

Zip Code	Tier	County
85283	Base	Maricopa
85284	Base	Maricopa
85285	Base	Maricopa
85286	Base	Maricopa
85287	Base	Maricopa
85295	Base	Maricopa
85296	Base	Maricopa
85297	Base	Maricopa
85298	Base	Maricopa
85299	Base	Maricopa
85301	Base	Maricopa

Zip Code	Tier	County
85339	Base	Pinal, Maricopa
85340	Base	Maricopa
85341	3	Pima
85342	2	Maricopa, Yavapai
85343	2	Maricopa
85344	3	La Paz
85345	Base	Maricopa
85346	3	La Paz
85347	3	Yuma
85348	3	La Paz
85349	3	Yuma

Rate with Tiers example

Discipline Specific Rates for Services	Setting
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Therapy Services (OT, PT, SLP)	Clinical
Therapy Services (OT, PT, SLP)	Natural
Therapy Services, 2 Children	Clinical
Therapy Services, 2 Children	Natural
Therapy Services, 3 Children	Clinical
Therapy Services, 3 Children	Natural

Developmental Special Instruction (Bachelor's)	Clinical
Developmental Special Instruction (Bachelor's)	Natural
Developmental Special Instruction (Bachelor's), 2 Children	Clinical
Developmental Special Instruction (Bachelor's), 2 Children	Natural
Developmental Special Instruction (Bachelor's), 3 Children	Clinical
Developmental Special Instruction (Bachelor's), 3 Children	Natural
Developmental Special Instruction (Master's)	Clinical
Developmental Special Instruction (Master's)	Natural
Developmental Special Instruction (Master's), 2 Children	Clinical
Developmental Special Instruction (Master's), 2 Children	Natural
Developmental Special Instruction (Master's), 3 Children	Clinical
Developmental Special Instruction (Master's), 3 Children	Natural

Base Rate	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
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\$92.84	\$102.12	\$116.08	\$139.28
\$122.44	\$134.68	\$153.04	\$183.68
\$58.04	\$63.84	\$72.56	\$87.04
\$76.52	\$84.20	\$95.68	\$114.80
\$46.44	\$51.08	\$58.04	\$69.64
\$61.24	\$67.36	\$76.52	\$91.84

\$49.96	\$54.96	\$62.44	\$74.92
\$76.04	\$83.64	\$95.08	\$114.08
\$31.24	\$34.32	\$39.04	\$46.84
\$47.52	\$52.28	\$59.40	\$71.28
\$24.96	\$27.48	\$31.24	\$37.44
\$38.04	\$41.84	\$47.52	\$57.04
\$63.32	\$69.64	\$79.16	\$95.00
\$92.60	\$101.88	\$115.76	\$138.92
\$39.56	\$43.52	\$49.48	\$59.36
\$57.88	\$63.68	\$72.36	\$86.84
\$31.68	\$34.84	\$39.56	\$47.48
\$46.32	\$50.96	\$57.88	\$69.48

Recent Funding History

- 2015: AzEIP Provider Rate flat increase of 4%, funded in part through legislation
- 2021: COVID-19 one-time payments
- 2021: ARPA Temporary Rate increase
- 2022: \$3.4M State General Fund increase for FY 2023
- 2023: \$4.4M State General Fund increase for FY 2024

Timeline



Funding Sustainability

- The \$3.4M appropriation increase in FY23 was used to increase rates approximately 7% over FY22 temporary rates.
- The \$4.4M appropriation increase in FY24 will make [these rates](#) sustainable long term at 100% of the benchmark rate.

Proposed Increases

- Therapies (Base Rate) change from current rates to 100% of benchmark
 - Clinical: Increase of \$7.00 (7.5%)
 - Natural: Increase of \$18.13 (13.6%)
- Developmental Special Instruction (DSI) (Base Rate) change from current rates to 100% of benchmark
 - Clinical: Increase of \$7.04 (13.6%)
 - Natural: Increase of \$10.75 (13.7%)

Proposed Increases 2

- Social Work (Base Rate) change from current rates to 100% of benchmark
 - Clinical: Increase of \$5.65 (13.6%)
 - Natural: Increase of \$8.76 (13.6%)
- Psychological Services (Base Rate) change from current rates to 100% of benchmark
 - Clinical: Increase of \$12.61 (13.6%)
 - Natural: Increase of \$19.65 (13.6%)

Proposed Increases 3

- Service Coordination (Base Rate) change from current rates to 100% of benchmark
 - Clinical: Increase of \$6.54 (13.6%)
 - Natural: Increase of \$9.48 (13.6%)
- Evaluation Flat Rate change from current rates to 100% of benchmark
 - \$15.32-\$34.36 dependent on discipline (13.6%)

Proposed Telehealth Rates

Teletherapy & Remote Services have been vital during the COVID-19 pandemic and continue to offer flexibility to meet the needs of children and families in some situations.

With the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE) being rescinded, other state programs have resumed in-person services and adjusted rates. AzEIP continues to provide a telehealth option when requested by families. Rates will be adjusted to more appropriately match the cost of remote services.

Proposed Teletherapy Rates

- Methodology: mirror Department of Developmental Disabilities and their recent telehealth change ratio (77% of the Natural Base Rate for each discipline and service type).
- An independent rate study to review all AzEIP rates, including telehealth rates, will be complete by the end of December, 2023. Those results will help inform future benchmarks.

Expected Outcomes

- Improved service delivery for AzEIP children and their families
- Recruitment and retention of providers
- Reduced caseloads
- Continued efforts to stabilize the workforce
- Establishment of telehealth rates to align costs and compensation among service delivery methods



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Questions
