



**child
development
services**

State Intermediate Educational Unit-146 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333
Telephone (207) 624-6660-Fax (207) 624-6661-TTY-1-888-577-6690

CDS Administrative Letter Number # 17

DATE: April 21, 2009

TO: CDS Regional Board Chairs, CDS Site Directors, CDS State Level
Advisory Board

FROM: David Noble Stockford, Policy Director and Team Leader
Debra Hannigan, CDS State Director

RE: Three Areas of Clarification with Regard to Part C Statutory Obligations

Under Part C of IDEA, states are required to have a comprehensive, coordinated, multidisciplinary, interagency system to provide early intervention services for infants and toddlers and their families. Maine's system has been developed with this premise. We have an interagency agreement with both Head Start and with the former Departments of Human Services and Mental Health and Retardation which describes our collective responsibilities for the implementation of services to the birth through 2 population. The Maine Department of Education is working with the Maine Department of Health and Human Services to develop an updated agreement.

Refinements to the Part C statute in the reauthorization of IDEA in 2004 require that the appropriate early intervention services must be based upon scientifically based research.

As regional boards are contracting with providers or employing staff for the provision of early intervention services, boards are required to maintain qualifications that are consistent with any state-approved or recognized certification, licensing, registration, or other comparable requirements that apply to the area in which such personnel are providing early intervention services.

For further information, please contact Debra Hannigan, State Director, Child Development Services, at 207/624-6660, or email her at debra.hannigan@maine.gov