

## Proposed Revisions in Autism Treatment via the CLTS Waivers

Since 2004 when the Children’s Long-Term Support (CLTS) Waivers began, there have been few significant revisions in the requirements for eligibility, the treatment model, the location of services and several other areas. In conversations with county staff, families, treatment providers and members of the Governor’s Autism Council in the last few years, it has become evident that, in order to best meet the needs of children with autism spectrum disorders and their families, some revisions to the current structure should be considered.

The following information highlights the major concepts that the Department has developed in collaboration with the Autism Council. These proposed revisions could be included in the upcoming CLTS Waiver renewal. The Department of Health Services would like to solicit the input and support of families prior to making decisions on these concepts.

### Major revisions

- Weekly treatment hours increased from the current 20-35 (bundled with travel and staffing hours) to 30-40 hours of treatment only.
- Age of service revised to ensure the youngest children receive early intensive behavioral intervention services at the level shown by research to be most effective.
- The creation of a new level of service with treatment at the 10-20 hour a week level, also including the option of some respite and adaptive aids services.
- Location of service extended beyond the home to include center-based programs and other community locations.
- Reinforcing the current requirement of family involvement as partners with treatment providers to ensure greater confidence as they work with their children.
- An increased expectation that treatment providers demonstrate children are making progress as a consequence of treatment.

	<b>Tier 1: Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention Services</b> <small>Children under the age of 4 years may apply</small>	<b>Tier 2: Consultative Behavioral Intervention Services</b> <small>Children under the age of 8 years may apply</small>
<b>Hours</b>	30-40 per week face to face	10-20 per week face to face
<b>Allowable costs</b>	Treatment and service coordination	Treatment, service coordination, respite, and adaptive aids
<b>Service location</b>	Home, center-based, & community	
<b>Family Involvement</b>	A minimum of 25% of all weekly treatment hours	
<b>Maximum # of years</b>	Three, including all years under any funding source. Maximum is the combined time under Tier 1 and Tier 2, if applicable.	

These proposed revisions are designed to address the concerns that families, county agencies and treatment providers have reported to CLTS Waiver staff. These concerns include: many children cannot receive an intensive level of treatment when they are school age; not all children with autism spectrum disorders are good candidates for intensive treatment; families need flexibility for a lesser level of treatment for school-aged children and those for whom an intensive level is not clinically appropriate; and families are seeking flexibility for other services known to be helpful for families.

**Please provide your written comments to DHS no later than  
Friday, August 26, 2011 by sending an email to: [DHSCLTS@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSCLTS@wisconsin.gov).**