

## 2506: COMPENSATORY SERVICES

Compensatory services are services provided to the family to make up for a delay in implementation of services or missed services which were promised on the IFSP, when the missed services or delay is attributed to the SoonerStart program or SoonerStart staff. Families are *eligible* for compensatory services when:

- the initial IFSP meeting date exceeds the 45 day timeline due to system delays.
- the early intervention services cannot begin because there are no providers available to implement services within 15 working days of the IFSP date.
- the service provider is unable to provide services due to his/her own illness or other scheduling conflicts.
- the annual IFSP meeting did not take place in a timely manner and services were stopped because providers did not have authorizations to continue services.

When IFSP services are not available on a timely basis, the SoonerStart team should address provision of compensatory services as part of the IFSP meeting once a service provider is identified or services resumed. Compensatory services are not necessarily one-for-one and are to be decided by the IFSP team which includes the family. If compensatory services are considered necessary due to fewer provided visits than promised on a previous IFSP, the number of compensatory visits may be fewer than previously promised, if acceptable to the family, but cannot be more than the number of visits promised.

Compensatory services are NOT included on an IFSP. These services are provided in addition to the services outlined on a current IFSP. (If visits are added to the number of visits on an IFSP, then they are not considered compensatory).

Compensatory visits are documented on a progress note by the service provider but cannot be billed to Medicaid because they are outside of the IFSP. Progress notes for compensatory visits should be designated by writing "Compensatory" on the top of the note. Compensatory services can also continue past the 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday until the agreed upon extra services are completed.

If a child ages out of SoonerStart and the family is eligible for compensatory services or compensatory services are being provided, the Regional Coordinator is responsible for notifying the Part C Coordinator at the State Department of Education.