

Subject: New Guidance for Teletherapy

Source: Pam Thomas, Coordinator, First Steps Program

Intended Audience: First Steps Providers and Service Coordinators

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The Missouri State Plan for Part C - First Steps was recently updated to include a service methodology for teletherapy. Guidelines for the use of teletherapy are now available on the web at:

<http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/first-steps/providers>

When considering service options, the child's IFSP team must consider and address each bullet point in the guidance before authorizing teletherapy for a First Steps provider. If the IFSP team decides to use teletherapy, the child's Service Coordinator is responsible for obtaining parental consent on a Notice of Action/Consent form.

Additionally, the First Steps Provider Rate Schedule has been updated to reflect the new teletherapy rate of \$12.50 per unit (15 minutes) and is now available on the web at:

<http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/first-steps/providers>