

Glossary

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Note: The [Minnesota Autism Resource Portal](#) includes a variety of resources about terms included on this page.

A

Adaptive behavior treatment: Refer to [intervention](#).

Adaptive behavior treatment with protocol modification: Refer to [observation and direction](#).

Advanced certification: Specialized credentials beyond foundational training in one of the DHS-recognized treatment modalities. Advanced certification:

- Typically involves additional coursework or training, supervised clinical experience and a certification exam.
- Equips providers to address complex cases and make informed, evidence-based decisions in treatment planning and implementation.
- Enhances providers' ability to effectively support people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and related conditions.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Treatment modalities – Certified providers](#).

Advanced certification provider: A provider who holds advanced certification in the DHS-recognized treatment modality the agency provides. All EIDBI agencies must have at least one provider who holds advanced certification in the modality the agency provides. An agency cannot operate without an advanced certification provider. The advanced certification provider is responsible to oversee fidelity of the modality and training of non-certified staff. The advanced certification provider must either be enrolled as a [qualified supervising professional \(QSP\)](#) or [level I provider](#). For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Treatment modalities – Certified providers](#).

Agency: A legal entity enrolled with Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) as a Medical Assistance (MA) provider, according to [Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0195](#), to provide EIDBI services. This includes an individual licensed professional who practices independently and acts as an agency. The agency is legally responsible to make sure its employees provide EIDBI services according to all applicable laws.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA): A treatment modality with a set of data-driven practices grounded in behavioral science. Providers can apply this approach to people of all ages. ABA focuses on increasing positive and appropriate behaviors through reinforcement while decreasing interfering/unwanted behaviors or behaviors that interfere with learning. Under ABA, the provider systematically analyzes factors in the person's environment that interfere with their success and teaches them new and more helpful ways to respond. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Treatment modalities – ABA](#).

Autism-Focused Intervention Resources and Modules (AFIRM): Resources designed to help explain a step-by-step process to plan for, use and monitor an evidence-based practice with people who have autism spectrum disorder (ASD), from birth to age 22.

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD): Core symptoms of ASD include when the person has:

1. Differences in social communication and social interaction across multiple contexts, demonstrated by differences in all the following:

- Social-emotional reciprocity (e.g., differences in social approach; reduced sharing of interests, emotions or affect; lack of starting or responding to social interactions such as conversations and play).
- Nonverbal communicative behaviors (e.g., differences in body language or gestures).
- Relationship development, maintenance and understanding.

2. Restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, interests or activities, demonstrated by at least two of the following:

- Stereotyped or repetitive motor movements, use of objects or speech (e.g., person lines up toys, echolalia).

- Ritualized patterns or routines (e.g., interfering behaviors when asked to transition from a preferred activity, insistence on eating the same way or taking the same route every day).
- Highly restricted or fixated interests.
- Hyper- or hypo-reactivity to sensory input or distinct interest in sensory aspects of the environment (e.g., adverse reactions to specific sounds, textures or smells; fascination with lights or movement).

ASD Strategies in Action: An online, video-based learning series that covers the characteristics of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and evidence-based strategies to support people with ASD in homes, schools and community settings. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Individual provider trainings](#).

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B

Background study: A study that determines whether a person has committed an act that would disqualify them from providing care. The provider agency must complete a NETStudy 2.0 background check for all people who have direct contact (i.e., in person or via telehealth) with people who receive services and their legal representatives, including volunteers, subcontractors and temporary staff. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Rights and responsibilities](#).

Behavior analyst: A person who holds a valid license under [Minn. Stat. §148.9981](#) to [Minn. Stat. §148.9995](#) to practice applied behavior analysis.

Behavior identification assessment: Refer to [comprehensive multi-disciplinary evaluation \(CMDE\)](#).

Billing: For general MHCP billing requirements, refer to [MHCP Provider Manual – Billing policy overview](#). Refer to the [EIDBI billing grid](#) for:

- Service names.
- Procedure codes.
- Reimbursement percentage rates.
- Modifiers.
- Provider limits and requirements.
- Units.
- Service limits.

For current payment rates, refer to [DHS – MHCP fee schedule](#). For more information, refer to [MHCP Provider Manual – EIDBI benefit – Billing](#).

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Case notes: A documentation requirement. Each time an EIDBI provider delivers an EIDBI service to a person or their legal representative, the provider must create a case note to document the service delivery. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Health service records – Case notes](#).

Center: A setting where a person receives EIDBI services that:

- Is not a private residence, clinic or hospital.
- Follows basic best practice for agency health and safety standards.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Settings](#).

Clinic: A setting where a person receives diagnostic, outpatient and/or EIDBI services that:

- Is not a private residence.
- Follows basic best practice for agency health and safety standards.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Settings](#).

Clinical supervision: The overall responsibility for the control and direction of EIDBI service delivery, including:

- Individual treatment plan (ITP) development and progress monitoring.
- Staff supervision.
- Treatment review for each person who receives services.

Qualified supervising professionals (QSPs) are the primary clinical supervisors. Other qualified EIDBI providers may supplement clinical supervision services as clinically appropriate. During clinical

supervision, the QSP takes full professional responsibility for the service provided by each supervisee and the clinical effectiveness of all interventions. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Clinical supervision](#).

Comprehensive multi-disciplinary evaluation (CMDE) (also known as behavior identification assessment): An EIDBI service that covers the required comprehensive evaluation of the person. The CMDE is a behavior identification assessment. The information gathered in the CMDE is used to:

- Determine the person’s eligibility and medical need for EIDBI services.
- Develop the person’s individual treatment plan (ITP), including treatment type and intensity.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – CMDE](#).

Comprehensive multidisciplinary evaluation (CMDE) provider: Refer to [EIDBI – CMDE provider qualifications, roles and responsibilities](#).

Coordinated care conference (also known as a medical team conference): An EIDBI service that covers a voluntary meeting between the person who receives services, their family, EIDBI provider(s), other service professionals and/or other people the person/family requests to:

- Review the comprehensive multi-disciplinary evaluation (CMDE) or individualized treatment plan (ITP).
- Integrate and coordinate services across providers and service-delivery systems to develop the ITP.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Coordinated care conference](#).

Crisis plan: Refer to [safety plan](#).

Cultural Responsiveness in ASD Services: An online training module that helps providers increase their understanding of culturally responsive practices when providing services to people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) or related conditions. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Individual provider trainings](#).

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Department: The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS), unless otherwise specified.

Developmental, Individual Difference, Relationship-Based (DIR)/Floortime Model: A treatment modality that provides a framework for a provider to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the person and develop a program tailored to their unique needs and strengths. The provider can apply this approach to people of all ages. DIR/Floortime creates opportunities for learning through spontaneous exchanges. These exchanges help the person build critical developmental abilities, including the ability to:

- Attend to environments and people in the environments.
- Engage and relate to others.
- Initiate and respond to communication.
- Participate in shared, social problem-solving.
- Think and play creatively and flexibly.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Treatment modalities – DIR/Floortime](#).

Discharge plan: Refer to [transition plan and/or discharge summary](#).

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E

Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) benefit: A Minnesota Health Care Program (MHCP) for people who:

- Are younger than age 21.
- Are on Medical Assistance (MA), MinnesotaCare, Minnesota Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) or other qualifying health care programs.
- Have autism spectrum disorder (ASD) or a related condition.

The purpose of the EIDBI benefit is to provide medically necessary, early and intensive intervention for people with ASD and related conditions. The benefit also is intended to:

- Educate, train and support parents and families.

- Promote people's independence and participation in family, school and community life.
- Improve long-term outcomes and the quality of life for people and their families.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Overview of the benefit](#).

Early Start Denver Model (ESDM): A treatment modality that integrates a relationship-focused, developmental model with Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) teaching practices. The program typically serves children ages one to four. The program:

- Focuses on the powerful pairing of interpersonal exchange and positive affect to promote shared engagement and teach social language and communication skills, play skills, cognitive and motor skills and personal independence.
- Supports parents' involvement.
- Is designed to be implemented in natural settings.
- Uses behavioral and developmental strategies and increases opportunities to promote typical development.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Treatment modalities – ESDM](#).

EIDBI 101: An online training about the various requirements of providing EIDBI services. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Individual provider trainings](#).

Eligibility: A person is eligible to receive Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) services if they meet all the following criteria:

- Diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) or a related condition.
- Had a comprehensive multi-disciplinary evaluation (CMDE) that establishes their medical need for EIDBI services (refer to [CMDE](#)).
- Enrolled in Medical Assistance (MA), MinnesotaCare, Minnesota Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) or other qualifying health care programs.
- Younger than age 21.

A Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP)-enrolled CMDE provider determines whether a person meets these eligibility criteria during the CMDE process. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Eligibility](#).

Emergency use of manual restraint (EUMR): People who receive EIDBI services must be free from seclusion or the use of manual restraints, except for the emergency use of manual restraints. The provider must only use emergency use of manual restraint when:

- A person poses an immediate risk of physical harm to self or others.
- It is the least restrictive intervention to achieve safety.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Rights and responsibilities](#).

Employee: A person who is employed temporarily, part time or full time by the agency that submits claims or billing for the work, services, supervision or treatment performed by the person. This does not include:

- Independent contractors (e.g., workers who file tax form 1099), billing agencies or consultants who do not provide EIDBI services.
- People who perform work, provide services, supervise or provide treatment for fewer than 80 hours in a 12-month period.

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Family adaptive behavior treatment guidance: Refer to [family/caregiver training and counseling](#).

Family/caregiver training and counseling (also known as family adaptive behavior treatment guidance): An EIDBI service that covers specialized training, education and support for a person's family/caregiver. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Family/caregiver training and counseling](#).

Fee schedule: For the most current rate information, refer to [DHS – MHCP fee schedule](#). For reimbursement percentage rates, refer to the [EIDBI billing grid](#).

Functional behavior assessment (FBA): An assessment used to better understand the purpose or reason for a person's challenging behavior. This assessment:

- Defines the challenging behavior.

- Identifies the situation in which it is most likely to occur/not occur.
- Generates a hypothesis of why it occurs.

DHS recommends a qualified EIDBI provider completes and documents an FBA if they:

- Use positive supports or restrictive procedures.
- Develop a behavior intervention plan to address interfering behaviors.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – How to complete ITP and Progress Monitoring, DHS-7109](#).

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G

Generalizable goals: Results or gains observed during a variety of activities over time with different people (e.g., providers, family members, other adults) and in different environments (e.g., clinics, homes, schools, community).

Group intervention session: A defined time when a qualified EIDBI provider delivers intervention to at least two, but no more than eight, people who receive EIDBI services. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Intervention](#).

Guardian: Refer to [legal representative](#).

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Health and safety standards: Guidelines to help EIDBI providers safely and effectively provide EIDBI services. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Health and safety standards](#).

Health service records: To receive payment for providing EIDBI services, the EIDBI provider agency and its staff must:

- Maintain a health service record for every person it serves.
- Document in the record every EIDBI service delivered to the person and their family.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Health service records](#).

Home: The primary residence of a person who receives EIDBI services. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Settings](#).

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I

Incident: Any of the following situations:

- Illness, accident or injury that requires first aid treatment.
- Bump or blow to the head.
- Unusual or unexpected event that jeopardizes the safety of a person or staff, including a person leaving the agency unattended.

Individual EIDBI provider: A person who works for or is affiliated with an EIDBI provider agency and meets the qualifications to be an enrolled EIDBI service provider. Individual EIDBI providers include the following:

- [Comprehensive multi-disciplinary evaluation \(CMDE\) provider](#).
- [Qualified supervising professional \(QSP\)](#).
- [Level I provider](#).
- [Level II provider](#).
- [Level III provider](#).

Individual intervention session: A defined time when a qualified EIDBI provider delivers intervention to one person. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Intervention](#).

Individual treatment plan (ITP) development and progress monitoring: An EIDBI service that covers the development of the person's initial ITP and ongoing monitoring of their progress. The ITP is a person-centered care plan that:

- The provider creates using the information gathered in the person's comprehensive multi-disciplinary evaluation (CMDE).
- Specifies the type and amount of medically necessary services the person will receive.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – ITP development and progress monitoring](#).

Intervention (also known as adaptive treatment): An EIDBI service that covers the medically necessary, intensive and individually designed direct treatment. The treatment specifically addresses the person's core developmental skill needs identified in their comprehensive multi-disciplinary evaluation (CMDE) and goals/objectives specified in their individual treatment plan (ITP). For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Intervention](#).

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Legal representative: The parent of a child younger than age 18, a court-appointed guardian or other representative with legal authority to make decisions about services for a person.

Level I provider: Refer to [EIDBI – Level I provider qualifications, roles and responsibilities](#).

Level II provider: Refer to [EIDBI – Level II provider qualifications, roles and responsibilities](#).

Level III provider: Refer to [EIDBI – Level III provider qualifications, roles and responsibilities](#).

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Managed care organization (MCO): An organization certified by the Minnesota Department of Health to provide all defined health care benefits to people enrolled in a Minnesota Health Care Program (MHCP) in return for a capitated payment. MCOs also are referred to as health plans or prepaid health plans (PPHP).

Medical necessity criteria: A person has a medical need to begin EIDBI services if they have autism spectrum disorder (ASD) or a related condition and meet eligibility through a medical necessity determination. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Medical necessity criteria](#).

Medical necessity determination: A decision made by a qualified professional about whether a person with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) or a related condition has a medical need for and, therefore, is eligible to receive EIDBI services. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Medical necessity criteria](#).

Medical team conference: Refer to [coordinated care conference](#).

Mental health professional: A person who meets criteria in [Minn. Stat. §245.4871, subd. 27, 1-6](#).

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP): Any of the following programs:

- Medical Assistance (MA).
- MinnesotaCare.
- Minnesota Family Planning Program.
- Home and community-based waiver programs.
- Medicare Savings Programs.

These programs might help pay for all or part of a person's health care costs if they:

- Do not have insurance.
- Cannot get affordable health insurance through a job.
- Have a disability or chronic condition and need help paying for care and services to stay in their home.
- Need help paying for care in a nursing home, hospital or other medical facility.
- Have other insurance or Medicare but need help paying the premiums, deductibles and copays or need services not covered.

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O

Observation and assessment: A component of protocol modification during which a qualified EIDBI provider observes service delivery with active evaluation of program component effectiveness for the person. The provider must:

- Collect and document data.
- Assess whether providers implement programming as intended.
- Determine if programming needs modifications.
- Document the data, rationale and identified next steps to ensure programming continues to meet the person's needs.

Passive observation without active assessment or data-driven justification does not meet criteria for billing.

Observation and direction (also known as adaptive behavior treatment with protocol modification): An EIDBI service provided by a qualified EIDBI provider that covers the clinical direction and oversight of intervention services and active protocol modification of the person's individualized treatment programming based on real-time observations. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Observation and direction](#).

Office: A setting where a provider performs administrative tasks and/or a person receives diagnostic services. An office:

- Is not a private residence, clinic or hospital.
- Follows basic best practice for agency health and safety standards.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Settings](#).

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P

Person: A person younger than age 21 (specific to references in this manual only).

Person-centered services: Services that:

- Respond to the identified needs, interests, values, preferences and desired outcomes of the person or their legal representative.
- Respect the person's history, dignity and cultural background.
- Allow for inclusion and participation in the person's community.

Positive Supports Rule: A rule governing positive support strategies and restrictive interventions. The purpose of the rule is to improve the quality of life for people, including children. It requires service providers to use person-centered principles and positive support strategies for people to whom the rule applies.

Prepaid Medical Assistance Program (PMAP): A mandatory managed care program for Medicaid-eligible adults, families and children in Minnesota.

Progress monitoring: A required individual treatment plan (ITP) update the qualified supervising professional (QSP) must submit after each six months of treatment or more frequently as determined by the comprehensive multidisciplinary evaluation (CMDE) provider or QSP. The purpose of the ITP progress monitoring update is to determine if the person is making progress toward targeted functional and generalizable goals specified in the ITP. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – ITP development and progress monitoring](#).

Progress notes: Refer to [case notes](#).

Protocol modification: Ongoing clinical decision-making and adjustments made by a qualified EIDBI provider to ensure that treatment remains individualized, effective and responsive to the person's progress or needs.

Provider agency: Refer to [agency](#).

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Qualified EIDBI provider: A person who is an EIDBI agency employee and meets the qualifications to be a qualified supervising professional (QSP) or level I, level II or level III treatment provider. They are qualified to provide EIDBI services outlined in a person's treatment plan.

Qualified supervising professional (QSP): Refer to [EIDBI – QSP qualifications, roles and responsibilities](#).

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R

Related condition: A condition that is closely related to autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and:

1. Is severe and chronic.
2. Results in impairment of a person's adaptive behavior and function, like that of a person with ASD.
3. Requires treatment or services, like those required for a person with ASD.
4. Results in challenges in the following symptom areas (like the symptoms of ASD):
 - Social interaction and communication.

- Restrictive, repetitive behaviors or hyper- or hypo-reactivity to sensory input.

5. May also include delays or need for a high level of support in one or more of the following related domains:

- Behavior challenges and self-regulation.
- Cognition.
- Learning and play.
- Safety.
- Self-care.

For more information, refer to the related conditions section of [EIDBI – Eligibility for EIDBI services](#).

Relationship Development Intervention (RDI): A treatment modality that is a family-based, behavioral treatment that builds on the theory that “dynamic intelligence” is key to improving quality of life for people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and related conditions. This approach can be applied to people of all ages. Dynamic intelligence is the ability to think flexibly and includes:

- Appreciating different perspectives.
- Coping with change.
- Integrating information from multiple sources (e.g., sights, sounds).

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Treatment modalities – RDI](#).

Rights and responsibilities: All people who receive EIDBI services and their legal representatives have rights and responsibilities, as listed on [EIDBI – Your Rights and Responsibilities, DHS-7645A \(PDF\)](#). EIDBI provider agencies and their staff also have responsibilities to the people to who receive services, as listed on [EIDBI – Provider Agency Responsibilities, DHS-7645B \(PDF\)](#). For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Rights and responsibilities](#).

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S

Safety plan: A plan of action created before a crisis occurs, so the person and their support network know exactly what to do in an emergency. The qualified supervising professional (QSP) and other qualified EIDBI providers should develop the plan with all team members, including natural supports and other providers. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – How to complete ITP and Progress Monitoring, DHS-7109](#).

Service agreement: When the medical review agent approves the service authorization, they create a service agreement. The provider agency uses the service agreement ID for billing purposes. For more information, refer to [service authorization](#).

Service authorization (SA): A requirement for some EIDBI services that safeguards against inappropriate and unnecessary use of health care services under state and federal law. The SA allows qualified providers to bill and receive payment from Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) after they provide EIDBI services. However, having an approved SA does not guarantee MHCP payment. The provider must meet all other MHCP requirements to receive payment. For more information, refer to [MHCP Provider Manual – EIDBI service authorization](#).

Session: A defined time when a qualified provider delivers an EIDBI service to a person. Each provider agency may further define a session, but all EIDBI intervention sessions must:

- Have a predetermined start and end time.
- Only include covered EIDBI services.
- Follow the person’s individual treatment plan (ITP).
- Meet DHS billing requirements.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Intervention](#).

Setting: The location in which a person receives EIDBI services. A person may receive EIDBI services in the following settings:

- Center.
- Clinic.
- Community environment (billed as the location from which the person originated [e.g., home, center]).

- The person's home.
- Office.
- Customized environment.
- Telehealth.

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Settings](#).

Supervisee: An individual EIDBI provider who receives documented clinical supervision while they deliver EIDBI services. They may be working toward licensure or certification. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Clinical supervision](#).

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T

Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA): An option that allows Medical Assistance eligibility for children with disabilities in families with incomes too high to qualify for Medical Assistance. For more information, refer to [DHS – Medical Assistance under the TEFRA option for children with disabilities](#) and [Minnesota Autism Resource Portal – Health care coverage](#).

Telehealth: The delivery of health care services or consultations through real-time, two-way interactive audio and visual communications to provide or support health care delivery and facilitate assessment, diagnosis consultation, treatment, education and care management. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Telehealth services](#).

Termination of services: The EIDBI provider agency may terminate the person's EIDBI services if they meet one of the [medical necessity termination criteria](#). For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Services](#).

Therapy: Refer to [intervention](#).

Training: DHS requires EIDBI providers to complete certain trainings and recommends they take other trainings. For a complete list of training requirements, refer to [EIDBI – Individual provider trainings](#).

Transferring agencies: Families have the right to transfer or change EIDBI provider agencies for any reason. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Services](#).

Transition plan and/ or discharge summary: A plan documented in the person's individual treatment plan (ITP) that must include:

- Discharge criteria.
- Protocols for changing service when medically necessary.
- Information about how the transition will occur.
- The time allowed to make the transition.
- A description of how the provider will inform and involve the person or their legal representative in the transition.

Providers must follow EIDBI policy, as described throughout the [EIDBI Benefit Policy Manual](#), to create the transition plan and consult with the person's legal representative about the person's transition or discharge plan. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – How to complete ITP and Progress Monitoring, DHS-7109](#).

Travel time: An EIDBI service that covers the time a qualified EIDBI provider is in transit to and from a location other than their typical place of service to provide in-person EIDBI services. For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Travel time](#).

Treatment: Refer to [intervention](#).

Treatment modalities: A person may receive treatment intervention according to one of the DHS-recognized treatment modalities. DHS recognizes the following treatment modalities:

- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA).
- Developmental, Individual Difference, Relationship-based (DIR)/Floortime model.
- Early Start Denver Model (ESDM).
- Relationship Development Intervention (RDI).

For more information, refer to [EIDBI – Treatment modalities](#).

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W

Week-in-the-life schedule: An optional document to help providers and families identify potential service times and schedule conflicts. For more information, refer to [ITP and Progress Monitoring Week-In-The-Life Schedule \(Addendum C\), DHS-7109C \(PDF\)](#) and [EIDBI – How to complete ITP and Progress Monitoring, DHS-7109](#).

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