



FIRST CONNECTIONS
MEDICAID AUTHORIZATION FORM

CHILD'S NAME: BIRTHDATE
CHILD'S INSURANCE #: CHILD'S MEDICAID #
PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN:
ADDRESS: CITY, ZIP:
PHYSICIAN'S NAME: PHONE #:
PROVIDER'S NAME: PHONE #:

PRIMARY INSURANCE CARRIER\*

Form with fields: Policy Holder's Name, DOB, Relationship to Child, Co-pay, Deductible, Mailing Address, Insurance Company Name, Claim Address, Phone #, Member Number, Plan Name, Group Number, Effective Date, Employer, Employer's Address.

Authorization (please read and initial one selection only)

I understand that early intervention will be provided to my family, without delay, without regard to public (Medicaid) or private health insurance coverage status during the time frame of the IFSP. If a service level increase is required during the duration of the IFSP, a new consent authorization form must be signed. Services to be provided are documented in the child's IFSP. Day Habilitation is not an Early Intervention service and is not covered under this agreement. Additional information regarding No-cost Protections for families participating in the First Connections program can be found on the back of this document.

I give my consent. I give my consent for First Connections providers to submit claims to Medicaid for covered early intervention services. I authorize Medicaid to make these payments to the First Connections provider. I authorize the release of any information from the First Connections provider to Medicaid as necessary to request payment of Medicaid benefits. I understand that I may revoke this permission at any time by notifying my First Connections Service Coordinator, \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.

I do not give my consent.

I certify the information provided is correct and agree to notify my First Connections Service Coordinator of changes in this information.

Signature of Parent or Guardian Date

## First Connections No-cost Protections for Families

In general, Arkansas First Connections has established policies to ensure that appropriate early intervention services will be provided to families of eligible infants or toddlers at no cost. Since services appropriate to meet functional child and family outcomes (goals) will be provided to an eligible infant or toddler and to his/her family at no cost to the parents, First Connections does not make use of sliding fee scales or determinations of ability/inability to pay. Therefore, there shall not be an instance where an eligible infant/toddler's parent will either be denied a service or service delayed based on a lack of consent or an inability to pay. Under no circumstance will a fee be imposed for non-disclosure of financial information or a parent charged disproportionately more than other parents.

An early intervention provider may not use Medicaid of an infant/toddler or parent to pay for early intervention services unless the early intervention provider has billed the family's private insurance according to Arkansas' Medicaid regulations and/or provided a written notification to the infant's/toddler's parents informing the parent of safeguards to protect their rights before an agency accesses the child's or parent's private insurance to pay for services under the IDEA for the first time and annually thereafter.

First Connections (Part C) funds are used when there are no other available Federal, State, local or private resources. Medicaid is utilized with parental consent for eligible infants/toddlers prior to the utilization of Part C funds. Therefore, the services, co-pays and deductibles for early intervention services listed on the IFSP which are not paid for by private insurance, or other funding may be requested from Part C funding.

The First Connections program is required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to inform parents of the following no-cost protections regarding payment for early intervention services:

- Parents must provide prior consent to the First Connections program or the early intervention service provider before early intervention services can be billed to the parent's public insurance (Medicaid). **Please note: Day Habilitation is not an early intervention service.**
- Parents cannot be required to enroll in Medicaid to receive early intervention services from the First Connections program.
- Early intervention, as specified in the child's Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) and to which the parent has consented, cannot be denied due to a parent's refusal to allow their Medicaid to be billed for such services.
- Parents must provide prior consent to the First Connections program or the Early Intervention Service Provider before a child's personally identifiable information (name, date of birth, policy number, and address) can be submitted for billing purposes.
- Parents have the right to withdraw their consent to disclose their child's personally identifiable information at any time without affecting the First Connections early intervention services their child is receiving as specified in their child's IFSP.
- Co-payments and deductibles are billable to First Connections Part C funding, as early intervention services are provided at no cost to the family. There is no lifetime cap or co-payments associated with billing Medicaid.