

**New York State Early Intervention Coordinating Council  
Provider Workforce Capacity and Rate Setting Methodology Task Forces  
Meeting Minutes – February 5, 2026 1:00pm-3:00pm**

Agenda Item	Discussion				Action Items	
<p><b>Welcome</b></p>	<p>The following task force members and advisors attended the meeting. P= Provider Workforce Capacity task force member, R= Rate Setting Methodology task force member</p>					
	<p>X= Present</p>					
	X	Heidi Bond (municipal representative) P, R (Otsego)	----	Leah Esther Lax (parent member) P, R		
	X	Raymond Bowman (State Agency) R	X	Lidiya Lednyak (co-chair & Municipal Representative) P, R (NYC)		
	----	Bonnie Catlin (state agency) R		Lynn Shea (discretionary seat/provider) P		
	-----	Joy Connolly (state agency) P	X	Angella Timothy (State Agency) P		
	X	Brigitte Desport (Personnel preparation or Training) P, R (NYC)	X	Elina Tsenter (State Agency) P		
	_____	Julie Opalecky (Rochester) P,R	X	Marina Yoegel (co-chair & municipal representative) P,R (Westchester)		
	X	Steve Held (provider representative) P, R (Suffolk)	_____	Patricia Zuber-Wilson (State Agency) P		
	X	Roxana Inscho (Advisor) P (Rochester)				
<p>Department of Health staff present: Peter Baran, Diane Ginsburg, Deborah Gutierrez, Michael Iorio, Kelli Lyndaker, Ken Moehring, Raymond Pierce, Jessica Simmons, Kimberly Smith, and Shu-kung Tai.</p>						
<p>Guests: Roxana Inscho, Provider Workforce Capacity advisor.</p>						
<p><i>All references to the Department refer to the New York State Department of Health, Bureau to the Bureau of Early Intervention, and Program to the Early Intervention Program.</i></p>						
<p><b>Task Force Update</b></p>	<p>Meeting convened by Michael Iorio at 1:05pm.</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bureau will analyze the percentage of available provider capacity by county and by type of service.</li> <li>• When the Bureau receives updated information or approval of the Academic Program they will send an announcement.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Provider Workforce Capacity 1:00pm-2:00pm</b></p> <p><b>1. Bureau of Early Intervention Updates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data analysis of children remaining in Early Intervention beyond their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday</li> <li>• Academic Program Approval Process Update</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Task Force:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transition Westchester County Data analysis- children remaining in Early Intervention beyond their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday.</li> </ul>					
	<p><i>The task force asked BEI for an update on the Registered Behavior Technician document. Discussed school psychologists not being included in the regulations package. The task force asked about research team recommendations.</i></p> <p><b>3. Discuss: City University of New York research team recommendations:</b></p>					

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Colleague Letter</li> <li>• Measurement Inc. Training Modules</li> <li>• New workforce</li> <li>• Micro- Credentials</li> </ul> <p><b>Rate Setting Methodology 2:00pm-3:00pm</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Follow-up on the two letters sent to the Governor from the Council. <i>No response to the retroactive increase in provider services payments. 15.4 million under Covered Lives was allocated to the counties in January.</i></li> <li>2. Feedback from legislative offices.</li> <li>3. Feedback from the New York State Association of County Health Officials regarding zip codes being used for the 4% rate modifier. <i>Data may be old as no children are currently in some of the zip codes.</i></li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conversation with the Bureau about the pilot and working toward a change for the next program year beginning July, 2026</li> <li>4. Discussion about the Multidisciplinary Evaluation reimbursement methodology</li> <li>5. Discussion about Registered Behavior Technician pricing</li> <li>6. Status of the State Plan Amendment to the Centers for Medicare &amp; Medicaid Services regarding the 5% rate increase</li> <li>7. Covered Lives Payment</li> <li>8. Waiver payments to municipalities</li> <li>9. Taskforce's role related to rate setting</li> </ul> <p><i>The task force discussed the possibility of creating a foundation for the Council.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Registered Behavior Technician document was received by the Bureau from the task force. They will continue to work on the document and return it to the task force.</li> <li>• The Bureau will follow up about scheduling a meeting with the Office of the Professions to discuss research team recommendations.</li> <li>• The Bureau will check for more recent zip code data for the 4% rate for services modifier.</li> <li>• The Bureau will discuss the 4% modifier and claims to Medicaid that were not paid the extra 4% at the full Council meeting on March 11, 2026.</li> </ul>
<b>Future Agenda Items</b>	<p>Agenda items suggested by task force members for future task force meetings include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss the use of school psychologists at the March 11, 2026, full Council meeting</li> <li>• Discuss a foundation for the Council at the March 11, 2026, full Council meeting</li> </ul>	
<b>Adjournment</b>	The meeting was adjourned by Steve Held at 2:30pm.	