

Paying for Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) Services

What is Family Cost Share?

The Family Cost Share system is designed so families pay a fair share for their ECI services. Families with an adjusted income above 100 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) are required to pay for services up to a maximum charge. ECI staff will work with you to determine your adjusted income and maximum charge.

The adjusted income is your gross income minus deductions for your family's medical, dental, and childcare expenses. The maximum charge is determined using a sliding scale based on family size and adjusted income. If your child is in foster or kinship care you will not be charged for services.

If my child has insurance, will I still have to pay?

If insurance pays for part of your child's services, you may be billed for the unpaid part up to the cost of services or your maximum charge, whichever is less. ECI will collect co-pays, co-insurance, and deductibles. The amount billed to you for services, co-pays, co-insurance, and deductibles added together cannot be more than your family's maximum charge. ECI can help you collect information about your insurance and explain how your insurance will help pay for your child's services.

Are there any ECI services I can receive without being charged?

To help you access initial ECI services, the following are provided at no cost to you:

- evaluation and assessment,
- case management,
- development of an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), and
- translation and interpreter services, including sign language.

These initial services help identify your child's strengths and needs, as well as locate resources to meet those needs. You will not have to pay anything for these services, however you may be asked for permission to bill your or your child's insurance.

What if my child has Medicaid or CHIP?

If your child has Medicaid during the month you will not have to pay ECI anything. If your child has coverage from CHIP, ECI will bill you for any services that are not paid for by CHIP. CHIP has co-pays for some services. The amount billed to you for services not paid by CHIP plus any CHIP co-pays cannot be more than your family's maximum charge.

What if my child does not have insurance coverage?

ECI cannot deny or delay your child's services because you do not have private or public insurance. If you would like to get health insurance, ECI can help you with finding and applying for insurance.

Where can I get more information?

You can ask an ECI staff person or go to the Family Cost Share section at: hhs.texas.gov/eci

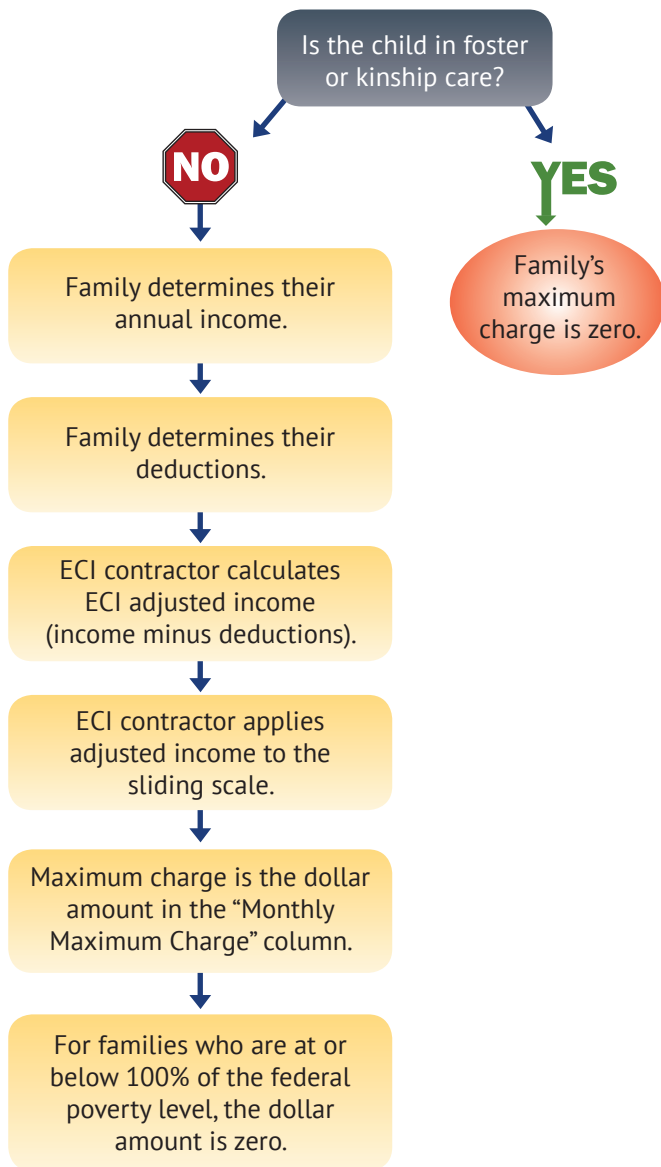


Paying for ECI Services – Brief Summary

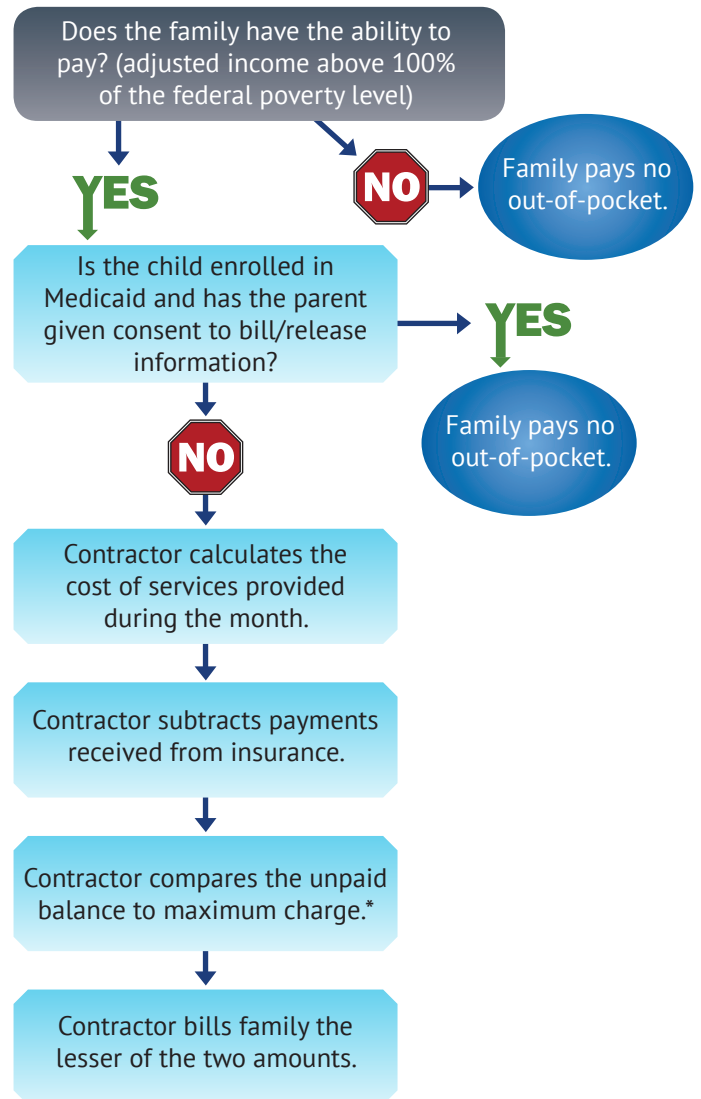
Services that may be reimbursed by insurance—Third party payments and ECI funds may cover a portion of the expenses for these services.

Specialized skills training (SST)	Nutrition services	Counseling services
Service coordination and case management	Nursing services	Psychological services
Evaluations and assessments	Behavior intervention	Social work services
Speech-language pathology services	Occupational therapy services	Transportation
Assistive technology associated with therapy services	Physical therapy services	Health services

Determining the Family’s Maximum Charge



Determining the Family’s Out-of-Pocket Charge for Services



*See Maximum Charge sliding scale.



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