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 Special Education Division, California Department of Education
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- 1. How does the Department define interagency care coordination and the role of the Department in engaging in interagency care coordination with other state departments and agencies?*

The California Department of Education (CDE) defines interagency care coordination as any effort among state agencies that provide support and services to students and schools to clarify the roles and responsibilities of each agency. When appropriate, this clarification allows for either a determination that a single agency is responsible for an element of service provision, or, when an element involves both agencies, it establishes a process for coordinating the activities of each agency to ensure that they fulfill their shared responsibility.

The federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and current state law mandate coordination of service provision to students with disabilities when a public agency other than the educational agency is otherwise obligated under federal or state law to provide or pay for services that are also considered special education or related services. In fact, federal law requires that an interagency agreement or other mechanism for interagency coordination is in effect between each non-educational public agency and the CDE to ensure that all services that are necessary to ensure a free appropriate public education for students with disabilities are provided. The interagency agreement or other mechanism for interagency coordination should include, at a minimum, policies and procedures for facilitating coordination, a definition of financial responsibility for services, and a process for resolving interagency disputes.

- 2. How does the Department coordinate with other state departments and agencies in the delivery of care and services for children with special needs and their families; please provide MOUs when available?*

The most common form for establishing service coordination is an Interagency Agreement, which in most cases is required by law. Interagency agreements and Memorandums of Understanding in which the CDE's Special Education Division is involved include:

Title/Subject	Other Agency Involved in Agreement
Services to Students with Disabilities in State Hospitals	Department of State Hospitals (formerly the Department of Mental Health)
Services to Students with Disabilities in Developmental Centers	Department of Developmental Services

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Transition Planning and Services to Secondary Students with Disabilities	Department of Rehabilitation
California Children Services Medical Therapy Program (PT/OT Services)	Department of Health Care Services
Services Provided to Adjudicated Youth	Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Early Start Program, Part C Contract/Interagency Agreement	Department of Developmental Services
Integrated, Competitive Employment for Working Age Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities	Department of Developmental Services and Department of Rehabilitation
Medi-Cal / Mental Health Services (proposed agreement)	Department of Health Care Services

In addition to the Interagency Agreement process, the CDE interacts with a number of agencies as needed to address issues that arise. For example, in response to the passage of AB 114 (Chapter 43, Statutes of 2011), which returned responsibility for the provision of IEP-based mental health services to local education agencies (LEAs) after it had been the responsibility of county mental health agencies for many years, the CDE convened a workgroup that included representation from the Department of Mental Health (DMH), the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), and numerous local agencies and organizations. The workgroup assisted CDE staff in the development of guidance to support local educational agencies in navigating the transition required by AB 114. Similarly, multi-agency workgroups have been convened to address issues on behavioral intervention, and special Education services to adjudicated youth.

- Please list the interagency care coordination activities and relationships currently underway by the Department for children and youth with special needs and how these activities are funded, specifically the funding source and estimated monetary figure allocation?*

Services to Students with Disabilities in State Hospitals

The Interagency Agreement between the CDE and the Department of Mental Health (now the Department of State Hospitals) for services to students with disabilities in state hospitals ensures that those students receive a free appropriate public education. Educational services for students with disabilities in state hospitals are administered by the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) under the general supervision of the CDE.

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State General Fund Proposition 98 Education (AB 1202) funds and a State Institutions Grant of Federal IDEA Part B funds are allocated for this purpose. In addition, Lottery funds are allocated to the DSH to offer educational programs to eligible individuals with disabilities who reside at the state hospitals.

Services to Students with Disabilities in Developmental Centers

The Interagency Agreement between the CDE and the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) for services to students with disabilities in state developmental centers ensures that those students receive a free appropriate public education. Educational services for students with disabilities in state developmental centers are administered by the DDS under the general supervision of the CDE. State General Fund Proposition 98 Education (AB 1202) funds and a State Institutions Grant of Federal IDEA Part B funds are allocated for this purpose. In addition, Lottery funds are allocated to the DDS to offer educational programs to eligible individuals with disabilities who reside at the developmental centers.

Transition Planning and Services to Secondary Students with Disabilities

The purpose of the Interagency Agreement between the CDE and the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) for transition planning and services to secondary students with disabilities is to create a coordinated system of educational and vocational rehabilitation services that results in an efficient transition from school to employment. The agreement focuses on students with disabilities who are enrolled in secondary school programs and are eligible for services from the DOR. Secondary schools may include high schools, state special schools, certified nonpublic schools, court schools, private or parochial schools, technical schools, and adult schools.

The CDE and DOR also collaborate to provide vocational rehabilitation services to transitioning secondary education students through either the Transition Partnership Programs (TPP) or WorkAbility II (WAll) programs and have an interagency agreement specific to that objective. The interagency agreement provides the necessary funds to administer the state's TPPs and WAll programs. Currently, these programs serve over 19,000 students. Statewide, there are over 100 TPPs administered through cooperative agreements with local school districts, special education local plan areas, and county offices of education. The interagency agreement supports local partnerships in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations including the 2014 Workforce Innovations and Opportunities Act.

Per the interagency agreement, the CDE and DOR share the cost of providing the staff and resources necessary for the administrative oversight of and technical assistance to these programs as required by federal statute. The interagency agreement specifies the following cost share expenditures for each fiscal year:

CDE (21.3%) State Match	= \$206,000.00
DOR (78.7%) Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Federal Match	= \$761,136.23

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Total VR Program Costs = \$967,136.23

The DOR uses the \$206,000.00 that the CDE provides as a match, contingent upon the availability of funds, to draw down \$761,136.23 in federal funds to make a total of \$967,136.23 available for the purpose and intent of the interagency agreement.

In addition, the DOR and CDE have another interagency agreement/contract to fund staff at the CDE to support the collaborative work between the two departments to increase the vocational and career opportunities for secondary students with disabilities. Through the contract, the DOR provides the CDE with \$234,294.56 annually to fund positions dedicated to working with DOR on site reviews, providing training and technical assistance, participating in the community of practice, and oversight of TPP and WAll programs.

Services to Students with Disabilities served by the California Children's Services
Medical Therapy Program

The Medical Therapy Program (MTP) is a special program within California Children's Services (CCS) that provides physical therapy, occupational therapy and medical therapy conference services for children who have disabling conditions, generally due to neurological or musculoskeletal disorders. Under California Government Code, Chapter 26.5, and accompanying interagency regulations, the DHCS, through the CCS MTP, is responsible for providing medically necessary occupational and physical therapy services when contained in the individualized education program (IEP) of a student with a disability. The interagency agreement between the CDE and DHCS outlines the responsibilities of each state agency to assure the uninterrupted delivery of special education and medically necessary therapy services as identified in the IEP, as well as describes the fiscal responsibility of each agency when providing services to eligible students.

Services to Adjudicated Youth

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), operates a LEA recognized as the California Education Authority. The LEA contains three high schools in each of the correctional facilities. Each high school provides youth with curriculum that meets the CDE requirements for High School and is similar to what students would receive in their local community. The DJJ provides special education and related services to students with disabilities at the correctional facilities. The intent of the interagency agreement between the CDE and CDCR DJJ is to delineate the shared responsibility of each agency to ensure service delivery to students with disabilities in our state correctional facilities.

Early Start Program, Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

The Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities (Part C of IDEA) is a federal grant program that assists states in operating a comprehensive statewide program of early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities, ages birth through

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age 2 years, and their families. The California State Legislature passed the California Early Intervention Services Act in 1993 (CEISA; 14 G.C. Section 95000 et seq.). CEISA established state authority to develop an early intervention service system that was congruent with federal requirements. The DDS plans, develops, implements, and monitors the statewide early intervention services system in collaboration with the CDE, and with advice and assistance from the State Interagency Coordinating Council. The DHCS, Department of Social Services, and Alcohol and Drug Programs cooperate and coordinate with DDS and the CDE in the delivery of early intervention services.

The interagency agreement between the DDS and the CDE delineates the collaborative relationship that exists to oversee the early intervention service system, specifies the responsibility of each state agency, and serves as a mechanism for the CDE to receive federal Part C IDEA funding from the DDS to disburse to local educational agencies. In Fiscal Year 2014-15, the CDE received \$14,599,871 from the DDS in IDEA Part C funding. Of that amount, \$14,244,871 was disbursed to special education local plan areas (SELPAs) for services to infants and toddlers eligible for Early Start and \$355,000 was retained by the CDE to fund state level activities related to oversight of and compliance with Part C of the IDEA.

Integrated, Competitive Employment for Working Age Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the CDE, DDS, and DOR reflects the agreement that opportunities for integrated, competitive employment (ICE) shall be given the highest priority for working age individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). The MOU specifies the intention of the CDE, DDS, and DOR to identify and implement improvements in furtherance of the State's "Employment First" Policy and other federal and state laws describing employment in an integrated setting, at competitive wage, for individuals with I/DD. The departments continue to jointly develop a blueprint to serve as a plan to use in order to redesign the service delivery system in California to support the achievement of ICE for individuals with I/DD.

Medi-Cal / Mental Health Services (proposed agreement)

The CDE is currently discussing the need for an interagency agreement with the DHCS to address seeking Medi-Cal reimbursement for services provided to Medi-Cal eligible students with disabilities, in an effort to maximize the use of available funding. Specifically, the potential need for an agreement was recognized when responsibility for the provision of IEP-based mental health services was assumed by LEAs with the passage of Assembly Bill 114 (Chapter 43, Statutes of 2011). Prior to AB 114, county mental health departments were responsible for the provision of IEP-based mental health services and had the ability to bill for Medi-Cal reimbursement directly when the student was Medi-Cal eligible and the service was medically necessary. In many cases, LEAs are not able to bill for Medi-Cal reimbursement directly. The intent of the proposed interagency agreement between the CDE and DHCS is to outline fiscal responsibilities of each agency, clarify payer of last resort and funding issues, and to suggest best

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practices related to collaborative relationships between LEAs and county mental health departments.

4. *Does the Department share resources with other departments and agencies to support interagency care coordination activities for children with special needs; if so, please provide examples?*

The CDE shares resources with other departments to support interagency care coordination when allowable and appropriate. As discussed above, the CDE works with the DOR to maximize funding to administer the state's TPPs and WAI programs. This includes the CDE providing state funding to the DOR to serve as the match so that the DOR can draw down federal funding for vocational rehabilitation services. This also includes the DOR providing funding to the CDE to fund staff at the CDE dedicated to working with the DOR on collaborative projects. In addition, the CDE receives federal IDEA, Part C funding from the DDS to fund collaboration on Early Start and facilitate services to eligible infants and toddlers. The collaborative relationships the CDE maintains with other departments often leads to resources that can be shared with the field in the form of knowledge sharing, technical assistance, or joint publications.