



**To:** First Steps Stakeholders  
**From:** Christina Commons, Director, First Steps  
**Re:** Public Comment: Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Act Grant Application

**Date:** March 20, 2024

The First Steps annual federal funding application under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act is now available for public comment and is available on the [DDRS public comment page](#).

The Bureau of Child Development Services (BCDS)/First Steps would like to highlight a change in approach to the preparation of Section III, C for the budget for Direct Services. In previous years, the BCDS has proposed dedicating Federal Part C dollars to all services. Following careful consideration, strategic planning, and partnership with fiscal leadership, technical assistance and federal partners, the BCDS proposes to devote the entirety of Direct Service funds to Service Coordination services. Please note that this change does not signify a reduction in funding for all other services. Federal Part C dollars are one of several funding sources that the BCDS utilizes to fund the delivery of services for children and families. These other funding sources continue to support direct services. The goal of this change is merely to create a more effective internal budgeting and expenditure process.

Comments regarding the application are due by May 6, 2024, and may be submitted to David Brandon-Friedman the following ways:

Email: [David.Brandon-Friedman@fssa.in.gov](mailto:David.Brandon-Friedman@fssa.in.gov)

Mail: Public Comment: Part C of IDEA Grant Application  
Attn: David Brandon-Friedman  
Bureau of Child Development Services  
FSSA/Indiana Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services  
402 W. Washington, W453  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

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**First Steps State Administration**

Bureau of Child Development Services  
Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services  
Indiana Family and Social Services Administration

402 W. Washington St.  
W453, MS-51  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739

Toll-free: 800-545-7763  
FAX: 317-234-6701  
[FirstStepsWeb@fssa.in.gov](mailto:FirstStepsWeb@fssa.in.gov)