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## **Self-Direction and ABA in Children's Choice**

According to the Louisiana Medicaid Office, Self-Direction for Family Support Services in the Children's Choice waiver will be available to participants beginning February 1, 2014. Families of Children's Choice recipients interested in Self-Direction are encouraged to contact their Support Coordinator or their [Regional Human Services District or Authority](#). For more information about Self-Direction read the [Council's fact sheet](#) on this topic.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is currently available in the Children's Choice waiver but a lack of ABA providers enrolled with Medicaid is making it impossible for children to access this service in some areas of the state. The Medicaid Office has recently raised the reimbursement rate for ABA to match the commercial rate and is currently contacting ABA providers to encourage their participation in the Medicaid program.

The Medicaid Office expects to issue an Emergency Rule in the very near future to add ABA to the Medicaid State Plan, expanding coverage beyond Children's Choice recipients. Children who are Medicaid eligible and require ABA as a "medically necessary" service will be eligible for this therapy. Families of children who need this service should also contact their Support Coordinator or their Regional Human Services District or Authority.

LaDDC News will report on the addition of other therapies in the Children's Choice waiver as they become available.