



Background

The behavior analysts support students in both regional and district programs who struggle with persistent maladaptive behaviors and have been resistant to less intensive interventions. With no ongoing funding source, a shared cost model was approved in April 2016. The shared cost model was based on usage and assigned to districts a proportional share of the fully loaded cost of these services (including salary, benefits, and mileage).

Existing Model – Adopted 4/7/16

The existing shared cost model was approved in April 2016, based on total behaviorist time of 3.0 FTE. Since that time, the program has lost funding that supported .7 FTE, so the program is now 2.3 FTE. At the time the model was adopted, transition to a shared cost model over two school years (2016-17 and 2017-18) was implemented in order to avoid creating significant fiscal impact for any one district.

Revised Recommendation

Use ERMHS funding to pay the district share of behaviorist cost per the approved model in 2016-17 and push the two-year transition to a shared cost model into 2017-18 and 2018-19. Bring a revised recommendation for a cost sharing methodology to a future SELPA Superintendents' Council meeting in 2017-18. The revised recommendation will be based on a reduced behaviorist staffing level.

The recommendation to delay the implementation of a shared cost model and develop a revised cost sharing methodology is based on the following factors:

- In-district usage of behaviorist time has decreased.
- Compliance risk around the use of ERMHS funding is better quantifiable.
- Strain on district budgets from various economic factors.

The first cost transfer from districts based on the existing model occurred in January 2017. Therefore those amounts would be transferred back to districts.