



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2009 Wisconsin Act 334**  
[2009 Assembly Bill 296]

**Coordinated Services Team  
Initiatives**

In Wisconsin, there are a number of initiatives to provide collaborative services to children. Integrated Services Projects (ISPs) were implemented in 1989 to provide wraparound services to children with severe disabilities. The statute governing ISPs required a county that operated an ISP to establish a coordinating committee comprised of representatives from multiple systems of care. The coordinating committee was required to prepare interagency agreements that participating organizations in the ISP agree to follow in creating and operating the ISP. The interagency agreement's components were also outlined by statute. The ISP was required to have one or more service coordination agencies. The service coordination agency was required to identify a service coordinator for each child with severe disabilities who participates in the program. Referrals into the ISP could come from many different types of public agencies or organizations, or from the child or the child's family. A treatment team was developed and included representatives of all service providers working with the family, as well as the family members and the child.

In 2002, the Department of Health and Family Services developed a request for proposals for counties to develop coordinated services team (CST) initiatives. The CST model is based on the ISP model of integrated services for children and families with multiple needs.

*Act 334* makes several changes to the statute governing ISPs. Specifically, the Act does the following:

- Expands the ISP's coverage to children who are involved with multiple systems of care, as well as their families, and changes the name of the program to the CST initiative.
- To reflect the expansion of the program's focus, changes the terms "integrated services," "integrated service plan," and "interdisciplinary team" to "coordinated services," "coordinated services plan of care," and "coordinated services team," respectively.
- Includes tribes as entities that may administer the CST initiative.

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.

- Provides funding to begin to phase in the remaining counties and tribes that do not currently operate either an ISP or a CST initiative, to enable these counties and tribes to establish the CST initiative.
- Amends the definition of CST to emphasize the process by which the child's family, service providers, and informal resource persons work together to respond to the needs of the child and family, rather than by describing the characteristics of the individuals on the team.
- Expands the required and optional representatives that serve on the coordinating committee in a county or tribe. The coordinating committee is the entity that:
  - Prepares interagency agreements for the creation and operation of a CST initiative.
  - Assesses how the CST initiative relates to other service coordination programs operating at the county, tribal, or local level.
  - Assists the administering agency in developing the application for CST funding.
  - Reviews determinations by the service coordination agency regarding program eligibility, appropriate family resources, and funding of services.
- Expands the duties of the coordinating committee to include:
  - Establishing operational policies and procedures.
  - Ensuring quality, including adherence to core values as adopted by the state advisory committee.
  - Developing a plan for orientation of new coordinating committee members and CST members to the CST process.
  - Identifying and addressing gaps in services.
  - Ensuring client and partner agency satisfaction.
- Creates the role of initiative coordinator, and defines the initiative coordinator's duties, which are to:
  - Bring together parents and staff from agencies and organizations to comprise the coordinating committee, and support their activities.
  - Work with the coordinating committee to maintain and support agency participation as established in the interagency agreement.
  - Work with the coordinating committee and service coordination agency to receive and review referrals.
  - Work with the coordinating committee and service coordination agency to assure service coordination for all groups working with the child and the child's family.

- Guide the development of CSTs working with the child and the child's family to ensure compliance with the basic principles of the CST initiative's core values.
  - Review plans of care.
  - Assist the coordinating committee and family teams in establishing consistent measures for initiative development, implementation, evaluation, and monitoring of the project and outcomes.
  - Facilitate public education and awareness of issues and programming for families and children.
  - Ensure ongoing support and training related to the CST process to families, service coordinators, and providers.
  - Provide support to service providers in developing strategies to enhance existing programs, to increase resources, and to establish new resources.
  - Ensure that local and state agencies submit data and reports in an accurate and timely manner.
- Increases the annual appropriation to DHS to provide grants to counties for CST initiatives by \$70,000 in general purpose revenue.

***Effective date:*** Act 334 took effect on May 27, 2010.

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