



Iowa IDEA Rewrite  
January 13, 2010

## Introduction

At the November 17, 2009 Governance meeting, the Central Processing Center staff requested permission to explore the notion of rewriting and releasing all the applications within Iowa IDEA simultaneously. The Governance committee discussed the benefits of such a plan and requested that the Center Staff return with a proposal.

The following proposal outlines rewriting, developing or modifying of the core applications within Iowa IDEA; namely, IMS, IEP, IFSP and Child Find. In addition, Medicaid, the Hearing Module, custom modules and reports are also included.

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## Assumptions

The staff at the Central Processing Center based this proposal on the following assumptions:

1. The existing applications and outputs, will remain unchanged until the rewrite is completed and released. The only exception will be changes in Federal collecting and/or reporting requirements.
2. The rewrite will include:
  - a. IMS
  - b. IEP
  - c. IFSP (only as needed to align with the other applications)
  - d. Medicaid
  - e. Child Find
  - f. Outputs
  - g. Nightly/Count Reports
  - h. APR Queries
  - i. Hearing Module
3. The IEP will be written to look more like the web IFSP. This means that the input screens will not be WYSIWYG (what you see is what you get) and that some of the images may be removed or edited.
4. The timelines are based on five (5) programmers. The five (5) programmers will focus on the new development and current regular tasks. Those regular tasks include:
  - a. Uploading state IDs.
  - b. Transmitting Medicaid claims.
  - c. Performing tech support to the data entry personnel.
  - d. Maintaining the servers.
5. The usage of an AEA's 56 hours would be suspended during this development time.
6. There will be intermittent testing during the rewrite. This will expedite the alpha and beta testing.
7. The release date needs to be on July 1 of any given year.
8. The Hearing Module will be a separate application. This will involve a separate login.
9. Only needed system data (e.g. district, building and assignment) and not any child-specific data will be moved from the legacy system to the new system. In addition, a method by which personnel can access "old" child-specific data will be created.

**\*Projected Timelines** The projected timelines for the rewrite and development of Iowa IDEA are:

Phase I: January 14, 2010 – June 30, 2012

- Rewrite IMS.
- Rewrite current IDEA, including framework.
- Create development site and new databases.
- Add fields in IEP and IFSP that are in currently in IMS but not in applications or are needed for Count, Medicaid or reports.
- Write the IMS/IEP/IFSP utilities.
- Develop the Child Find.
- Research and conduct performance testing and implement load balancing.
- Develop the data dictionary.
- Facilitate the alpha testing and beta testing.
- Fix bugs.
- Facilitate the pilot testing.
- Move code to the live site.

Note: IMS data entry persons will continue to enter their data into the old system in order for FoxPro to generate their reports. In addition, the APR data will be pulled as it is currently being pulled.

Phase II: July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2014

- Develop reports, including count reports and APR reports.
- Develop the application to look up archives of IEPs and IFSPs.
- Rewrite the nightly/count.
- Develop the Hearing Module.
- Develop files such as Count and data formerly used for FoxPro reports.
- Develop Medicaid.
- Develop customized modules.
- Develop all additional reports not related to the Count or already on the web.

Note: It is anticipated that the new IEP, IFSP, IEP and Child Find application will be used starting on July 1, 2012.

July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

- Use data from the new system for the Count.
- Use data from the new system to generate APR reports for this year.

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## IMS

The scope of the modifications and changes for the IMS rewrite is in the process of being identified. The most recent versions of the working documents are:

- Recommendations for Customized Screens
  - Recommendations for System Level Screens
  - Recommendations for Child-Related Screens
  - Changes to IMS
  - Must have FoxPro Reports
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**IFSP**

When the rewrite is completed, the only changes that will have been made to the web IFSP are those that are necessary to align the IFSP with IMS and the web IEP.

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**IEP**

The IEP will be written to look more like the web IFSP. The only other changes that will be made to the web IEP are those that are necessary to align the IEP with IMS and the web IFSP.

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**Child Find**

The specifications for the Child Find module are forthcoming. It is anticipated that Child Find will be an integrated application within Iowa IDEA. In addition, it is anticipated that changes will need to be made to web IEP as some forms and functions will be moved from that application to Child Find.

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**Medicaid**

The Medicaid rewrite will include:

- Contact EDISS on testing claims and up a testing claim login (writing code to be for test or production).
- Modify the Medicaid Entry screens (Enter Claims) and reports (Medicaid Detail Report, Medicaid Fix Report, and View Eligible Students) in IMS.
- Rewrite code for the monthly processes such as uploading the DHS Medicaid Eligible file received each month.
- Rewrite a new routine for Rate changes which typically occur every July.
- Develop the transmission. These components are: Build Master Header file, physclm Excel file, HIPPA file.
- Create transmission results (processing results from transmission).
- Rewrite 6 Medicaid Claim Sheet Reports
  - Medicaid Claim Forms & Staff Logs
  - Medicaid Claim Forms & Staff Logs (EYSE Services)
  - Medicaid Claim Forms & Staff Logs (Part C)
- Rewrite Medicaid FoxPro Reports
  - Medicaid Claim Forms Counts (by Staff) - (refer to Request 1570)
- Update IMS Staff Demo and IMS Child Demo screens to look at new Medicaid historical table.

Notes:

- The Create Paid claim upload would not be programmed as it is currently not being used.
- The Medicaid Claim Forms & Staff Logs (Part C – Service Coordination) report will not be rewritten as all service coordination will come from the Services screen, not the Plan and Services screen.

- The Central Processing Center staff is researching the following reports to see if they are still being used. If unused, they will not be rewritten.
  - The Medicaid Claim Forms & Staff Logs (AEA 14, watch kids excluded) will not be rewritten
  - Medicaid Claim Forms & Staff Logs (pick header build date) Ordered by Field Office

**Hearing Module Recommendations**

The Hearing Module will be rewritten with the same functions and features that are being used statewide. In addition to the two screens, Hearing Loss and Screen, some reports will also need to be rewritten.

**\*Customized Modules**

If the current trend of the Iowa IDEA applications is to align them and to develop a comprehensive statewide system, it seems that the need for customized modules for individual AEAs will diminish. The Governance Committee is asked to consider removing “customized modules” as one way for AEAs to use their 56 hours, once the 56 hours are reinstated.

**Addressing Unanticipated Needs**

In the event that the Governance Committee approves a change to any of the applications or requests that a programmer work on a special project (e.g. changes in federal reporting requirements), the Central Processing Center will present an adjusted timeline to the Governance Committee. Factors such as complexity of the change and the number of applications impacted will affect the length of time needed for completion.

**\*Addressing Future Questions**

It is critical that questions from the programmers be answered as quickly as possible in order to not delay programming. Therefore, it is requested that the following groups/people be appointed decision-makers for specific applications for Phase I development:

- The Operations Work Group for IEP, IFSP and IMS.
- Jim Gorman and Randy Allison for Child Find.

The Governance Committee will remain as the policy-making committee.

In the case where an answer needs to be obtained between a group’s scheduled meeting, e-mail or other via a distance communications will be used.