F. Qualifications of Case Managers (only the following can be case managers):

Each case manager must be a Mississippi Early Intervention Program certified service provider, and:

- 1. Have a bachelor's or master's degree in child development, early childhood education, special education, social work, early intervention, or be a registered nurse (RN), and have two (2) years related professional experience in the administration of programs or provision of direct services to children with special healthcare needs, developmental delays, or handicapping conditions and their families, or
- 2. Have a degree in a related field with course credits addressing child development, disabilities and family systems and have two (2) years of relevant professional experience.
- G. The state assures that the provision of case management services will not unlawfully restrict an individual's free choice of providers in violation of Section 1902(2)(23) of the Act.
  - A. Enrolled and participating recipients will have free choice of the available providers of case management services.
  - B. Enrolled and participating recipients will have free choice of the available providers of other medical care under the plan.
- H. Payments for case management services under the plan does not duplicate payments made to public agencies or private entities under other program authorities for the same purpose.

F. Qualifications of Case Managers (only the following can be case managers):

Each case manager must be a Mississippi Early Intervention Program certified service provider, and:

- 1. Have a bachelor's <u>or master's</u> degree in child development, early childhood education, special education, social work, <u>early intervention</u>, or <u>be a registered nurse (RN)</u>, and have two (2) years related professional experience in the administration of programs or provision of direct services to children with special healthcare needs, developmental delays, or handicapping conditions and their families, or
- 2. Be a registered nurse; Have a degree in a related field with course credits addressing child development, disabilities and family systems and have two (2) years of relevant professional experience.
- 3. Two years experience in service coordination for children with disabilities up to age 18; or
- 4. Two years experience in service provision to children under six years of age.
- G. The state assures that the provision of case management services will not unlawfully restrict an individual's free choice of providers in violation of Section 1902(2)(23) of the Act.
  - A. Enrolled and participating recipients will have free choice of the available providers of case management services.
  - B. Enrolled and participating recipients will have free choice of the available providers of other medical care under the plan.
- H. Payments for case management services under the plan does not duplicate payments made to public agencies or private entities under other program authorities for the same purpose.