

AN ACT

relating to prevention and early intervention programs and practices.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 264.201(d), Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The services may include in-home programs, parenting skills training, youth coping skills, and individual and family counseling. If the department requires or a court orders parenting skills training services through a parenting education program or practice, the program or practice must be an evidence-based program or practice or promising [~~practice parenting education~~] program or practice [~~described by Section 265.151~~] that is provided in the community in which the family resides, if available.

SECTION 2. Section 265.004(a-1), Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a-1) The department shall ensure that not less than 75 percent of the money appropriated for parenting education programs under Subsection (a) funds evidence-based programs or practices described by Section 265.151(b) and that the remainder of that money funds promising [~~practice~~] programs or practices described by Section 265.151(c) or evidence-informed programs or practices described by Section 265.151(d).

SECTION 3. The heading to Subchapter D, Chapter 265, Family

1 Code, is amended to read as follows:

2 SUBCHAPTER D. EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES [~~PARENTING~~  
3 ~~EDUCATION~~]

4 SECTION 4. The heading to Section 265.151, Family Code, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 Sec. 265.151. REQUIREMENTS FOR [~~PARENTING—EDUCATION~~]  
7 PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES ON EVIDENCE-BASED SPECTRUM.

8 SECTION 5. Section 265.151, Family Code, is amended by  
9 amending Subsections (b) and (c) and adding Subsection (d) to read  
10 as follows:

11 (b) An evidence-based program or practice is a [~~parenting~~  
12 ~~education~~] program or practice that:

13 (1) is research-based and grounded in relevant,  
14 empirical knowledge and program-determined outcomes;

15 (2) has comprehensive standards ensuring the highest  
16 quality service delivery with continuous improvement in the quality  
17 of service delivery;

18 (3) has demonstrated significant positive [~~short-term~~  
19 ~~and long-term~~] outcomes;

20 (4) has been evaluated by at least one rigorous,  
21 random, controlled research trial across heterogeneous populations  
22 or communities with research results that have been published in a  
23 peer-reviewed journal;

24 (5) substantially complies with a program or practice  
25 manual or design that specifies the purpose, outcomes, duration,  
26 and frequency of the program or practice services; [~~and~~]

27 (6) employs well-trained and competent staff and

1 provides continual relevant professional development opportunities  
2 to the staff; and

3 (7) is associated with an organization in this state,  
4 a national organization, an institution of higher education, or a  
5 national or state public health institute.

6 (c) A promising [~~practice~~] program or practice is a  
7 [~~parenting education~~] program or practice that:

8 (1) has an active impact evaluation of the program or  
9 practice or demonstrates a schedule for implementing an active  
10 impact evaluation of the program or practice;

11 (2) has been evaluated by at least one outcome-based  
12 study demonstrating effectiveness or random, controlled trial in a  
13 homogeneous sample;

14 (3) substantially complies with a program or practice  
15 manual or design that specifies the purpose, outcomes, duration,  
16 and frequency of the program or practice services;

17 (4) employs well-trained and competent staff and  
18 provides continual relevant professional development opportunities  
19 to the staff; and

20 (5) is research-based and grounded in relevant,  
21 empirical knowledge and program- or practice-determined  
22 [~~program-determined~~] outcomes.

23 (d) An evidence-informed program or practice is a program or  
24 practice that:

25 (1) combines well-researched interventions with  
26 clinical experience and ethics, and client preferences and culture,  
27 to guide and inform the delivery of treatments and services;

1           (2) has an active impact evaluation of the program or  
2 practice or demonstrates a schedule for implementing an active  
3 impact evaluation of the program or practice;

4           (3) substantially complies with a program or practice  
5 manual or design that specifies the purpose, outcome, duration, and  
6 frequency of the program or practice services; and

7           (4) employs well-trained and competent staff and  
8 provides continual relevant professional development opportunities  
9 to the staff.

10           SECTION 6. Section 265.152, Family Code, is amended to read  
11 as follows:

12           Sec. 265.152. OUTCOMES OF EVIDENCE-BASED PREVENTION AND  
13 EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES [~~PARENTING EDUCATION~~].

14 The department shall ensure that a prevention and early  
15 intervention [~~parenting education~~] program or practice provided  
16 under this subchapter [~~chapter~~] achieves favorable behavioral  
17 outcomes in at least two of the following areas:

18           (1) improved cognitive development of children;

19           (2) increased [~~school~~] readiness for and  
20 participation and performance in school [~~of children~~];

21           (3) reduced child abuse, neglect, and injury;

22           (4) improved child safety;

23           (5) improved social-emotional development of children  
24 and youth;

25           (6) increased protective factors [~~improved parenting~~  
26 ~~skills~~], including nurturing, [~~and~~] bonding, and other parenting  
27 skills;

1 (7) improved family economic self-sufficiency;

2 (8) reduced parental or youth involvement with the  
3 criminal justice system; and

4 (9) increased paternal involvement and support.

5 SECTION 7. Section 265.153, Family Code, is amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 Sec. 265.153. EVALUATION OF PREVENTION AND EARLY  
8 INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES [~~EVIDENCE-BASED PARENTING~~

9 ~~EDUCATION~~]. (a) The department shall adopt outcome indicators to  
10 measure the effectiveness of prevention and early intervention  
11 [~~parenting education~~] programs and practices provided under this  
12 subchapter [~~chapter~~] in achieving desired outcomes.

13 (b) The department may work directly with the model  
14 developer of a prevention and early intervention [~~parenting~~  
15 ~~education~~] program or practice to identify appropriate outcome  
16 indicators for the program or practice and to ensure that the  
17 program or practice substantially complies with the model.

18 (c) The department shall develop internal processes to  
19 share information with prevention and early intervention service  
20 providers [~~parenting education programs~~] to assist the department  
21 in analyzing the performance of the programs or practices.

22 (d) The department shall use information obtained under  
23 this section to:

24 (1) monitor prevention and early intervention  
25 [~~parenting education~~] programs and practices;

26 (2) continually improve the quality of the programs  
27 and practices; and

1           (3) evaluate the effectiveness of the programs and  
2 practices.

3           SECTION 8. Section 265.154, Family Code, is amended to read  
4 as follows:

5           Sec. 265.154. REPORTS TO LEGISLATURE. (a) Not later than  
6 December 1 of each even-numbered year, the department shall prepare  
7 and submit a report on state-funded prevention and early  
8 intervention [~~parenting education~~] programs and practices to the  
9 standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with  
10 jurisdiction over child protective services.

11           (b) A report submitted under this section must include:

12           (1) a description of the prevention and early  
13 intervention [~~parenting education~~] programs and practices  
14 implemented and of the models associated with the programs and  
15 practices;

16           (2) information on the families served by the programs  
17 and practices, including the number of families served and their  
18 demographic information;

19           (3) the goals and achieved outcomes of the implemented  
20 programs and practices;

21           (4) information on the cost for each family served,  
22 including any available third-party return-on-investment analysis;  
23 and

24           (5) information explaining the percentage of money  
25 spent on evidence-based programs and practices, on promising  
26 [~~practice~~] programs and practices, and on evidence-informed  
27 programs and practices.

1 SECTION 9. Section 265.151(a), Family Code, is repealed.

2 SECTION 10. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 452 passed the Senate on April 29, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 29, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 452 passed the House, with amendment, on May 26, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 95, Nays 48, two present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor