

To: All Early Intervention contract managers and FCFC coordinators  
From: Nathan DeDino  
Date: October 23, 2020  
Subject: Early Intervention Program Updates, #2026

## ***MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR***

Thank you to everyone who helped facilitate the completion of our 2020 family questionnaire. Overall, our state response rate was approximately 12%. Eight counties achieved a response rate of more than 40%! We extend our congratulations and appreciation to Clinton, Defiance, Guernsey, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Tuscarawas, and Washington counties who had the top response rates in the state. As we have said previously, the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) is putting increased emphasis on states' family questionnaire response rates and how representative their data are as part of updates to Indicator 4 of the Annual Performance Report (APR). In the next year, DODD will be working with stakeholders to ensure that our processes reflect this new emphasis. You can learn more about OSEP's standards [here](#).

I always invite your feedback. Do not hesitate to contact me at [nathan.dedino@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:nathan.dedino@dodd.ohio.gov). I look forward to hearing from you.

## ***PROGRAM UPDATES***

### **November 1 LEA Reporting**

The quarterly LEA reporting requirement is coming up at the end of the month. This report is now available in EIDS in both Excel and PDF formats. You may use either version, but please remember the following:

- The November 1 LEA report must be run no earlier than October 22 and no later than November 1.
- If the parent does not want contact information shared with the LEA, "no" must be selected in EIDS in response to "Transition contact info shared with LEA:" on the most recent IFSP and the date the parent declined to share information must be documented.
- It is expected that child information will be updated in a timely manner so that the LEA reports in EIDS are accurate.
- *Only the sections of the report that are relevant to a particular LEA should be sent to that LEA, not the entire report.*
- If you are not sure which LEA should be selected for a specific child, we encourage you to contact the relevant Educational Service Center (ESC) for clarification. Contact information for all of the ESCs and public school districts, along with a map of districts, is available here: <https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Data/Ohio-Educational-Directory-System-OEDS>.

The November 1 LEA report does *not* need to be submitted to DODD, but we encourage you to keep a copy for your records. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Courts at [melissa.courts@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:melissa.courts@dodd.ohio.gov).

## **2020 EI Family Questionnaire Reports**

DODD sent EI Contract Managers and FCFC Coordinators a report earlier this week including their county's results for questions 1 through 10 of this year's family questionnaire and the county's response rate. These reports will be posted on the EI website in the coming weeks, as well. Data included in questions 1 through 3 also make up the Family Outcomes indicators of the Annual Performance Report, and thus will correspond to 4a, 4b, and 4c on county APR and Determinations Reports that will be distributed in the coming months.

DODD is currently in the process of de-identifying responses to questions 11 through 14 and the "Additional Comments" section in instances where the parent did not consent to share their comments exactly as written. DODD will distribute responses to these questions to counties upon completion, but they will not be posted publicly.

## **EI Nutrition Services Request for Proposals**

Due to a lack of responses, DODD is again posting the EI nutrition services request for proposals. This is an exciting opportunity to provide an important service for children in EI. Nutrition can have a significant and positive impact on ameliorating the effects of elevated blood lead levels. We also know that many families have prioritized outcomes related to feeding and meal time. If your agency or agency in your community is interested, you can learn more here:

<https://procure.ohio.gov/proc/viewProcOpps.asp?oppID=21977>

## **Ohio Department of Health Referrals to EI**

With a number of referrals being made to EI through the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), we wanted to clarify in one place what those referrals are and who makes them.

- *Referrals for children with hearing loss*
  - ODH, as the lead agency for the state's Early Hearing Detection, and Intervention (EHDI) system, oversees a system of screening, diagnosis, and referral to EI for children with hearing loss. As part of this work, ODH's contractor, the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities (OCECD) contacts families whose child has confirmed hearing loss to discuss the diagnosis and ask if the family is interested in an EI referral. If OCECD is able to contact the family and the family is interested in the referral, OCECD completes an EI-8045 form and sends it to Bright Beginnings for processing as an EI program referral. If OCECD is unable to contact the family, OCECD sends contact information for the family to Bright Beginnings to initiate a system referral and the corresponding three contact attempts to the family.

- Service coordinators should request hearing diagnosis information from ODH for these referrals. Since hearing loss is a qualifying diagnosis, no developmental evaluation is necessary if the service coordinator can obtain the diagnosis information by e-mailing Sheryl Silver ([sheryl.silver@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:sheryl.silver@odh.ohio.gov)).
- Program Updates #1816 and 1715 contain additional details.
- *Referrals for children with elevated blood lead levels (EBLLs)*
  - Information about children who are tested and found to have an EBLL is reported to ODH by testing facilities. ODH pulls data on a weekly basis for children with EBLLs. These data are sent weekly to Bright Beginnings for processing as a system referral.
  - If the contact log indicates that the referral was made by ODH for a child with a confirmed EBLL, service coordinators do not need to request further information to confirm the diagnosis for EI eligibility reasons.
  - Program Updates #2001 contains additional details.
- *Referrals for children with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS)*
  - Information about children who are diagnosed at a children's hospital as having NAS is reported to and confirmed through ODH. ODH pulls data on a biweekly basis for children with NAS. These data are sent bi-weekly to Bright Beginnings for processing as a system referral.
  - If the contact log indicates that the referral was made by ODH for a child with a diagnosis of NAS, service coordinators do not need to request further information to confirm the diagnosis for EI eligibility reasons.
  - Program Updates #2023 and 2024 contain additional details.

## ***RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES***

### **Battelle Developmental Inventory-3 Update**

The Battelle Developmental Inventory (BDI)-3 was released last month. We are recommending that you continue to use the BDI-2 until you run out of materials. If you begin with the BDI-2, you should continue with the BDI-2 until the child exits. There are no changes to the cut-off scores from the BDI-2 to the BDI-3. The changes in administration and interpretation are minor.

A subscription is required to obtain BDI-3 materials and is equivalent to purchasing a kit. There must be an administrator for the subscription, but multiple team members can share materials. Riverside Publishing offers discounts if you are purchasing large quantities of materials

As mentioned in Program Update #2025, we have scheduled four virtual training sessions on the Battelle Developmental Inventory-3. The capacity for each session is 30 participants. Please note one correction: the November session is Nov 19, not Nov 18 as noted in Update #2025.

Our goal is to have all evaluators trained by SFY24, so you have three years to complete the training. DODD will consider the BDI-2 training current until July 2024. Keep in mind that according to rule 5123-10-02 (G)(1), at least one of the qualified personnel administering the tool must have received department-approved training in administration of the tool.

Registration for the four virtual trainings is via Zoom, and the registration links are below. After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail. If you have questions, please contact your Program Consultant.

November 19, 9:00am

<https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUvcOmtrTIqGdFGI8MXplup7U1sgoDZx9u0>

January 25, 9:00am

[https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0vduitpjLiG9N8h11aMqmN\\_\\_mmA7sW94zd](https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0vduitpjLiG9N8h11aMqmN__mmA7sW94zd)

March 22, 9:00am

[https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUrcuuvqTMiGtO1MDCR0a4c2E4qE6hT\\_ZbK](https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUrcuuvqTMiGtO1MDCR0a4c2E4qE6hT_ZbK)

May 10, 9:00am

<https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAlfuuprDkuHNVUIf7uJWiT4XWrlei16IOM>

### **Bayley-4 Update and Reminders**

For those trained on the Bayley-3, our trainer, Dr. Paul Williams, suggests reviewing Pearson's recorded webinar describing the changes in the Bayley-4 and other online training options:

<https://www.pearsonassessments.com/store/usassessments/en/Store/ProfessionalAssessments/Cognition-%26-Neuro/Bayley-Scales-of-Infant-and-Toddler-Development-%7CFourth-Edition/p/100001996.html?tab=training>

After reviewing this information, counties can decide if more in-depth, live training is needed. DODD considers the recorded webinar current training for the Bayley-IV. The Early Intervention website includes more information about the Bayley-4 and the digital platform, Q-global. Please see the EI Website, Providers - Local, State and National Resources.

### **Self Care Training**

The Project TREES Grant (Tools and Resources for Engaging Empowering and Supporting) Families in EI, is offering a training about self care on November 9 at 12:00pm. Ronni Bowyer and Janet Strottner will present a 90-minute webinar to provide some practical and needed tips for taking care of oneself during this ongoing stressful time. You can learn more and register here:

<https://www.smores.com/2jtw9-self-care-share?ref=email>

### **Emergency Plan Instruction and Kit**

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services has multiple resources available to help families create an emergency plan during the COVID-19 pandemic. You can access the plan instructions, which include links to other resources, here:

<https://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/docs/family-plan-instructions.pdf>

# Informational Webinar on Pivotal Response Treatment (PRT) for EI Training!

November 23, 2020 | 12:00 PM EST

Join this informational webinar to learn more about an upcoming training opportunity for early interventionists on pivotal response treatment (PRT). This webinar will provide an overview of upcoming events, training details, and a brief summary of this evidence-based practice supporting young children with or suspected of autism spectrum disorder.



[Sign up Here!](#)

