

To: All Early Intervention contract managers and FCFC coordinators
From: Nathan DeDino
Date: March 11, 2022
Subject: Early Intervention Program Updates, #2205

MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

Spring arrives officially at 11:33am on March 20 this year. As the warm weather approaches and we begin to spend more time outside, we would like to share a [one page resource](#) from the Family, Infant, and Preschool Program (FIPP) that may be of use to you and the families you serve. Wishing all of you a happy spring!

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

PROGRAM UPDATES

American Rescue Plan Act Deadlines

Please be aware of the following important American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) deadlines. All materials related to SFY22 must be submitted no later than April 1. SFY23 materials are due no later than June 1. Please contact your EI program consultant with any questions.

SFY22 Transition Baseline

Activities related to the SFY22 Transition baseline are underway. DODD extracted data on March 2, and the initial analysis is in progress. County inquiries are scheduled to be sent March 15 and will be due back to DODD March 30.

Bright Beginnings Outreach Webinar

Bright Beginnings provided an update about Central Intake and Referral activities and resources in a webinar on February 24. You can access a recording of the webinar and the PowerPoint slides here:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/trainings/288>

Service Coordinators and Evaluations

DODD would like to provide clarification regarding service coordinators' presence at evaluations after receiving feedback about confusion among some participants in a recent DODD-sponsored Battelle training. Under Ohio Administrative Code 5123-10-02(F)(a), the service coordinator is responsible for coordinating a timely, comprehensive, multidisciplinary evaluation. It is not,

however, a requirement that service coordinators be present at the evaluation. Nonetheless, there are many benefits when a service coordinator attends the evaluation, and DODD recommends the practice. Service coordinators are a familiar person for the family, can be a support to the family during uncertain times, and can introduce the evaluation and assessment team to the family. During evaluations, the service coordinator may also have the opportunity to gather additional information for the family-directed assessment and gain rich information from the evaluation, child observation and parent interview that could be included in the IFSP for program planning purposes. It is also an opportunity for the service coordinator to arrange next steps with the family with the entire team present. We apologize for any confusion. If you have any additional questions, please reach out to your EI program consultant.

EIDS Troubleshooting and Requests

When experiencing an Early Intervention Data System (EIDS) issue, please be sure to utilize the EIDS resources available on the EI website that outline how to complete data entry and provide tips for troubleshooting, including a table that lists which pages in EIDS can be edited. Using these resources first can ensure the timeliest resolution of your issue. You can access these resources here:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/data-system>

If you need to submit an issue to the EIDS email, please be sure to explain the issue thoroughly (including screenshots, if applicable), include any relevant dates and specific names of applicable items, and include the ETID directly in the email title or email body. We appreciate your following these steps to help streamline any needed EIDS corrections and adjustments.

EIDS Manage Documents Reminders

Please remember that Central Intake saves all referral documents and any related information they receive (including potential documentation of a child's diagnosis) in the "Manage Documents" tab of the child record in EIDS. This information, along with all of the contacts, should be reviewed in preparation for meeting the family and coordinating the eligibility process.

Part C Application for Federal Funding

DODD has posted its annual application to the US Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) for federal funding for the year beginning July 1, 2022. You can access the application here:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/federal-reporting-and-postings>

Public comment will be accepted through April 8.

RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Modules 4 and 5 of Principles of Service Coordination

Modules 4 and 5 of Principles of Service Coordination (POSC) will be available by May 1. The two modules combined take no more than eight hours to complete. EI service coordinators who need to complete these modules to renew their credentials by July 1 should build time into their schedules during May and June. Please reach out to your EI Program Consultant by June 15 to discuss any extenuating circumstances preventing completion of Modules 4 and 5 in time for credential renewal.

Webinar: SFY23 EI Service Coordination Grant Agreement

Please join the DODD EI team on April 27 from 9:00-10:00am to learn about the terms, provisions, and requirements for the SFY23 EI service coordination grant agreement. You can register here:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6494834298427501836>

ID Early for Autism Spectrum Disorder

This webinar series focuses on supporting professionals working with families and young children at risk and/or suspected of autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Each webinar in the series provides information, resources, and tools professionals can use to enhance early identification.

The following topics will be covered:

April 5: Early Signs of ASD and Tools to Assist

April 12: Talking with Families About Concerns

April 19: Supporting Families Through the Diagnostic Journey

April 26: Diagnostic Criteria | Communicating and Collaborating with Professionals

You can register here:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zlBKzbQmTA2CFtZQt-45gQ

InspirED: The Earlier the Better! Recognizing Autism in Young Children

The earlier young children with ASD are identified, the more opportunity early childhood professionals have to provide services and supports that will benefit children for a lifetime. Gain a deeper understanding of ASD diagnosis and educational eligibility determination, insight into differences in presentation of ASD in boys and girls, and considerations for making decisions about services and supports. This webinar will be held April 21 at 4:00pm, and you can register here:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_jyCrugGyTvWreoM35X_Evg

Newborn Behavioral Observation (NBO) Registration

We are offering two virtual sessions of, “Using the NBO in the Context of Families Living with Substance Use Disorder,” presented by the Brazelton Institute at Boston Children’s Hospital. The dates are May 25-26-27 or Jun 1-2-3 (9:00am-3:00pm).

This training is for individuals who have never taken the training and would like to become certified. For individuals who have already participated in the certification training and would like additional training about working with families experiencing substance use disorder, we will soon be scheduling follow-up sessions. Each session is capped at 23 participants. Registration will occur on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants must meet the following criteria:

- Must be a member of an IFSP team serving infants, toddlers, and their families,
- Must be a DS or therapist (interventionists/assessor), and
- Must commit to obtaining certification following training and using the information learned in the training when assessing and providing interventions via the IFSP

EI program consultants will verify that interested participants meet the criteria and send an approved list to Brazelton Institute. Approved participants must attend an orientation meeting with Brazelton to learn about requirements and expectations. The meeting will be scheduled once the approved list is complete. After the meeting, those who commit to the pre-training, training, and certification activities will be provided with a registration link for Brazelton’s platform. If you have questions, please contact your EI program consultant.

Ohio Disability and Health Program and the Association of State and Territorial Officers Opportunity

The Ohio Disability and Health Program and the Association of State and Territorial Officers (ASTHO) has a paid opportunity available to individuals with disabilities and family caregivers. Participants will help inform emergency preparedness efforts. You can learn more and apply here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCKTDBX>