

# EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM UPDATES

## November 11, 2025

### MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

As I approach the one-year anniversary as Ohio's Part C Coordinator, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge another incredibly important 2025 milestone: the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Initially established in 1975 as the Education for All Handicapped Children Act (EHA), this landmark civil rights law was implemented to support and protect the rights of, meet the individual needs of, and improve results for infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities and their families. In a 1990 reauthorization, this law was renamed to IDEA. Read more about the full history of IDEA here.

While we continue to navigate challenges and unknowns in our work, one thing that remains certain is our commitment to IDEA and the children and families we serve. Your unwavering service and support—especially amidst all the uncertainty—is truly admirable and makes a lasting impact on these children and families. Thank you for all that you do. Please join me in celebrating 50 years of IDEA!

Please feel free to reach out to me at <u>Taylor.Hammond@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov</u> with ideas, questions, or suggestions any time.

#### **PROGRAM UPDATES**

#### El Office Hours

Thank you to everyone who attended one or both of the first two installments of our EI office hours. Both sessions covered the EI System of Payments (SOP) and the new form to be used for requesting support from Councils of Government (COGs) or Department Contracted Providers (DCPs) for evaluations, assessments, or ongoing EI services. For those who could not attend, the recording of the September 29 office hours is available <a href="here">here</a>, and the recording for the October 27 office hours is available <a href="here">here</a>. The slides and recordings from these events will also be available on the EI website in the coming weeks.

DCY will have one more EI Office Hours session this year on November 24, and you can register <a href="here">here</a>. The topic for the November office hours will be announced soon. If you have topic suggestions for the November call or other upcoming calls, please send them to <a href="mailto:ei@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov">ei@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov</a>.

#### State Fiscal Year 2026 Transition Baseline

As a reminder, DCY will kick off the State Fiscal Year 2026 (SFY26) Transition Steps and Services and Transition Planning Conference (TPC) baseline analyses with a webinar on November 13 at 2 p.m. Please register for the Transition Baseline Preparation webinar <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>. We encourage all counties to attend regardless of whether your county is part of this year's transition baseline analysis.

The full SFY26 baseline compliance calendar, including a list of counties in each group, is available on the EI website under the Monitoring tab and can be accessed <a href="here">here</a>. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Hale at <a href="here">Erin.Hale@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov</a>.

Did You Know? - Requirement to Send Child Record when Transferred to Another Ohio County

El Service Coordinators (EISCs) are required to maintain one record for each child in El, including, as applicable:

- Copies of required forms and all EI program correspondence
- EISC case notes that document all early intervention program activities
- Documentation of eligibility
- All Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs)

When a child enrolled in Early Intervention transfers to another county, the current EISC is **required** to provide an electronic or paper copy of the child's early intervention record within ten calendar days of a request from the receiving county (OAC 5180-10-02(P)(4)). Requests for records can be submitted via email, phone, fax, or other means. When transmitting a record request, the EISC in the receiving county may want to include the Contract Manager and/or EISC Supervisor in the sending county, in addition to the EISC. It is imperative that the full child record is sent in a timely manner, so the new EI team has access to all the relevant information about the child and family. This helps facilitate a smooth and seamless transfer, ensuring the child's developmental needs are met without delay.

Prompt and accurate record transfer supports the new county in its requirement to maintain a complete record for each child, and more importantly, keeps the focus where it belongs – on helping the child and family succeed. If you encounter issues obtaining a record in a timely manner after making a request, we encourage you to contact your Regional EI Program Consultant or Monitoring Consultant for support.