

To: All Early Intervention contract managers and FCFC coordinators
From: Nathan DeDino
Date: March 16, 2018
Subject: Early Intervention Program Updates, #1807

MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

I want to thank the many participants we have had in the past several months who have given very freely of their time to work groups centered around revising the EI rules. We are on track to complete the rule revisions this summer and will keep you updated on the process. We have had very diverse participants—parents, service coordinators, EI contract managers, FCFC coordinators, providers, and more—who have contributed greatly to this process. Our rules will be all the stronger because of these contributions. Thank you!

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

FFY18 Application for Funding

Ohio's application to the US Department of Education for funding for FFY18 is posted on the EI website. Please note that funding levels are not final since Congress has not completed the budget process for FFY18. You can access the application here:

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

Central Intake Request for Proposals

ODH has canceled the previous request for proposals (RFP) issued on January 22, 2018 and issued a new RFP. You can access the new RFP on DAS procurement website here:

<https://procure.ohio.gov/proc/viewProcOpps.asp?oppID=15127>

Supporting Ohio's Service Coordinators Process Update

In 2017, DODD began a process to support counties by helping them better understand the roles and responsibilities of the Service Coordinator. We have been gathering information from all 88 counties in Ohio about current service coordination practices. For Part One of the *Supporting*

Ohio's Service Coordinators process, we have focused on the following areas within the ten federally mandated responsibilities of the Service Coordinator:

- Single point of contact
- Coordinating evaluations and assessments
- Explaining parent's rights and procedural safeguards,
- Providing parent with copy of rights
- Coordinating and facilitating the COS process

We are now ready to share the data gathered from Ohio's counties and to explain how we will use this information moving forward. Please join Diane Fox, EI Program Manager, and Nathan DeDino, Part C Coordinator, as they share this information via webinar. We are offering the webinar on two different dates/times:

April 17, 1:00-2:30pm <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8441676833519759619>

April 19, 9:00-10:30am <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4721926742172143875>

Child and Caregiver Demographic Information in EIDS

We have recently had several questions about which demographic information is required in EIDS for children and caregivers. Only those questions at the top of the demographic screens are required. Any questions below the line header "Additional demographic data collection for Home Visiting participants" (e.g., child medical home, caregiver marital status, etc.) are not required for participants in EI. However, you can answer these questions if the data is of potential use to you.

EIDS Updates

DODD IT made a number of updates to EIDS on March 15. You can learn more about these by accessing the updated FAQ document in the EIDS message box.

SFY18 TRS Baseline Analyses (Group 2)

County inquiries, including any needed missing data or verification requests, were sent out March 2 and are due back March 19. Verification and final analyses will be completed after that time, and results will be sent in late April.

February 1 LEA Notification

The February 1 Quarterly LEA Report analysis is complete. Memos were sent to all counties by Shakila Dixon on March 6.

System of Payments Rule Monitoring

All counties should have now received a verification request for SOP documents. DODD will be reviewing records over the coming weeks. If you have any questions, contact Melissa Courts at melissa.courts@dodd.ohio.gov.

E-mail Challenges

We have recently heard from several of you that you have experienced issues receiving emails from some DODD staff. As local IT administrators tighten up security and upgrade firewalls, legitimate correspondence can be inadvertently blocked. Always check first with your local IT staff to determine what options are available and appropriate at your organization. Two possible solutions that have worked for others are detailed below.

Sometimes simply adding an individual or organization to your contacts can help. While in Outlook, right click on the email address of a sender and then select “Add to Outlook contacts.” On the Home tab, select “Junk,” then click on “Junk email options,” which will allow you to set preferences, including “Trust email from my contacts.”

Another way to resolve this is to add frequent contacts to your “safe senders” list. Select an email from the appropriate contact and then click on “Junk.” This will give you a drop down where you can select “Never Block Sender” (for that individual) or “Never Block Sender’s Domain” to allow any sender from that domain (such as anyone @dodd.ohio.gov).

RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Developmental Screening Tools Posted to Website

Links to the following Developmental Screening tools have been posted to the Ohio EI website:

- PEACH Nutrition Screening
- Vision: Taking a Look, and
- Hearing Status Questionnaire

You can find them by clicking the **Providers** Tab and then, the **Local, State and National Resources** tile, or by clicking this link:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/local-state-national-resources>

Updated EI Professional Development Resources

The Professional Development tile of the EI website has been extensively updated. You can now easily access information about Trainings, the Loop Ohio Community of Practice, Resources, and the TA Team. The Training page also now includes a search feature that allows you to filter the list of trainings by Continuing Education Option, Skill Level, Topic and Format.

You can access the updated page on the EI website here:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/professional-development-and-training>

Motivational Interviewing: Tough Conversations in Early Intervention

Please join us for an informative and practical training. Dr. Robert Gallen will be leading “Motivational Interviewing: Tough Conversations in Early Intervention,” as a facilitated webinar. This training will be held March 21, from 10:30am-12:00pm.

Registration is available on OhioTRAIN, Course # 1074987. You will be directed to complete a second registration step on GoToWebinar:

<https://oh.train.org/DesktopShell.aspx?tabId=7>

For questions, please contact Lori Myers, lori.e.myers@dodd.ohio.gov.

Early Childhood Mental Health Conference “Intentional Transformation Early Childhood Success: Master Plan for Change”--UPDATE

The theme of the conference was selected to align the work that has been done by the early childhood systems partners to leverage our understanding of each other’s role and capacity to further increase the social emotional development, kindergarten and school readiness of Ohio’s youngest children. The conference will be held April 23-25 in Columbus. You can learn more and register here:

<https://2018ecmhconference.brownpapertickets.com/>

The above link now has been updated with more information about the conference sessions.

State-Sponsored Training Opportunities

Ongoing trainings available through OhioTRAIN:

- Coaching in Early Intervention self-paced webinar (1063890)
- Early Intervention Mission and Key Principles self-paced webinar (1061264)
- Family-Centered Practices self-paced webinar (1064739)
- IFSP Form self-paced webinar (1028661)
- The IFSP: It’s All about the Process self-paced webinar (1066899)
- Introduction to Early Intervention self-paced webinar (1061260)
- Natural Learning Environments self-paced webinar (1063888)
- Principles of Service Coordination in-person training (1047684)
- Using a Primary Service Provider Approach to Teaming self-paced webinar (1064737)

Other Trainings:

- Child Outcomes Summary: Your state team encourages county teams to use the eight online COS modules developed by the DaSy Center. Each participant must register for the

online modules. You will then receive an email with a direct link to access the online modules. You can access the modules here: <http://dasycenter.org/child-outcomes-summary-cos-process-module-collecting-using-data-to-improve-programs/>. If your team needs additional support after completing the COS modules, please contact your program consultant. NB: Credentialing hours are not available for these trainings since there is no way currently to verify attendance.

- Overview of Evidence Based EI: This training is accessed through your program consultant, and is designed to support teams with learning about the key components of EB EI practices including a review of the Mission and Key Principles, Coaching, Teaming, and Natural Learning Environment practices.
- Documentation: This training is available through your program consultant and supports teams with learning what type of activities need to be documented.

Call for Reviewers: Striving Readers Literacy Grant

The Ohio Department of Education is seeking individuals to serve as grant reviewers for the Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy Subgrant. Each reviewer will provide a detailed and objective review of approximately six grant applications. These reviews will be used to recommend applications for funding.

Ohio was awarded a \$35 million [Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy Grant](#) from the U.S. Department of Education to build upon ongoing work to improve the language and literacy development of our children.

Approximately 95 percent of the \$35 million award will be distributed directly to local schools or early childhood providers to improve literacy outcomes for children from birth through grade 12. The three-year grant will focus on serving the greatest number of students living in poverty, students with disabilities, English learners and students identified as having reading difficulty.

Who: The Department is seeking individuals with expertise in language and literacy development and education for children from birth through grade 12 to score Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy subgrant applications. Reviewers should be, but are not limited to, teachers (birth through grade 12), administrators and caregivers, higher education experts, nonprofit managers and administrators, and grant writers. Reviewers will be selected based on programmatic expertise and experience.

Grant reviewers will have experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Emergent literacy and language development and programming (birth to age 5);
- Early literacy and language development and programming (kindergarten to grade 3);
- Conventional literacy and language development and programming (kindergarten to grade 5);
- Adolescent literacy evidence-based practices and programming (grades 6-12);
- Disciplinary Literacy (grades 6-12);
- The Ohio Improvement Process; and
- Developing and/or improving academic outcomes for students.

Other desired attributes and skills including experience:

- Designing literacy and language programming;
- Designing, developing and implementing education or other programs that demonstrated successful outcomes or attempted new approaches; and
- Building, managing and/or overseeing relationships across multiple organizations to deliver a service/product.

Qualifications

To be considered, each applicant must meet at least one of the following minimum qualifications:

- Associate's degree for early childhood providers;
- Bachelor's degree in education, or equivalent, and related five years of experience;
- Five years of experience as a teacher/caregiver for infants/toddlers, teacher or school administrator, higher education faculty; OR
- Five years of experience in nonprofit management.

UPDATED: Availability

Grant reviewers must be available April 2-4 to review applications for three consecutive days during the work week. The peer review will take place in Columbus, Ohio. Each reviewer must bring a laptop computer and have access to an email account. If a laptop is not available, the Department may be able to provide one for these days.

The Department may schedule additional sessions based on the number of subgrant applications received.

Conflict of Interest

Grant reviewers will be required to self-report any conflicts of interest. Grant reviewers shall not participate in any way in actions or decisions that directly or indirectly involve their own financial interests, or those of their families or business associates. If potential reviewers are directly or indirectly affiliated with a grant applicant through themselves, a family member or business interest, the individual will not be allowed to score applications where the conflict of interest exists. If chosen, the reviewer will be provided a list of all applicants and partners and a conflict of interest form to complete.

Reviewers will be paid \$400 per day for their time and effort over a two- to three-day review, contingent upon their attendance to all days of review and the satisfactory completion of the above requirements.

To Apply: If you would like to apply to be a reviewer, please complete the application at the following link: [Call for Reviewers](#).

Program Information: Visit the [Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy Grant webpage](#) for more information on the grant.

Questions: Please direct all reviewer application questions to strivingreaders@education.ohio.gov or call Marcia Barnhart at (614) 644-6838.