

To: All Early Intervention contract managers and FCFC coordinators
From: Nathan DeDino
Date: April 10, 2020
Subject: Early Intervention Program Updates, #2009

MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

We are excited to share some news about your colleagues. The Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Dr. Larry Edelman, the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA), and DODD have been collaborating to produce a series of videos offering guidance to EI programs across the country about ways to use tele-EI. The first video, [Supporting Families during the Pandemic: Four Therapists Share Their Wisdom](#), is posted on the ECTA website. Please take a look at this video to learn more about ways to use technology to support the families you serve and join us in sending congratulations to your colleagues in Cuyahoga county. This is a wonderful example of Ohio's EI professionals rising to the current challenge and showing the way for EI programs across the country.

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

May 1 LEA Reports

DODD e-mailed all EI contract managers and FCFC coordinators on April 8 about the May 1 LEA report due at the end of April. DODD understands that separating the PDF LEA report into individual files for each school district may be challenging with many people working remotely. In light of these challenges, we will be providing each county an Excel version of the May 1 LEA report that can be sorted and filtered by school district. You may continue to utilize and distribute the PDF versions of the report as usual, but, if you choose to use the Excel version for the May 2020 reporting, please ensure all relevant data are cleaned up and accurately entered into EIDS no later than *Monday, April 20*. DODD will extract the data and distribute the Excel files on April 21, along with instructions for how to sort and filter files by LEA. The appropriate LEA reporting information must be sent to LEAs no later than May 1.

Please remember the following requirements:

- The May 1 LEA report must be run no earlier than April 21 and no later than May 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 May 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.

SFY 2020 45-Day Analysis (Group 1)

Activities related to the SFY20 45-Day analysis are underway. Data were extracted February 24. Applicable missing data and verification requests were sent March 2 and were due back to DODD March 17. Records are currently being reviewed and clarification requests are being sent to counties, as applicable. If you have questions about the process or barriers to accessing or providing information during the COVID-19 emergency, please contact Melissa Courts at melissa.courts@dodd.ohio.gov. DODD is currently evaluating its monitoring baseline procedures for SFY20 and anticipates adjustments in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

2019 County Annual Performance Report (APR) and Determinations Reports

DODD sent reports including county results on each APR indicator and this year's determination category to Contract Managers and FCFC Coordinators on December 5. County APR reports and the 2019 Family Questionnaire reports, have now been posted on the EI website:

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

If you have any questions, please contact Taylor Hammond at taylor.hammond@dodd.ohio.gov.

Small Business Loans

Recently passed federal legislation provides loans to small businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The loans are available to non-profits, including organizations that receive Medicaid funds. You can learn more here:

<https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources>

RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Bayley Informational Webinar

Please join Dr. Gloria Maccow from Pearson Clinical Assessment for a webinar. She will discuss differences between the Bayley-3 and Bayley-4 and address concerns about administering the Bayley virtually. This webinar will be held Apr 28 from 11:00am-12:00pm.

To register, please use this link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8783925133152965134>

If you have questions, please contact Lori Myers at lori.e.myers@dodd.ohio.gov.

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and Division for Early Childhood (DEC) Free Membership

To ensure everyone has access to CEC and DEC resources at this time, both CEC and DEC are offering free membership through May 31. Join today at <https://www.cec.sped.org/Membership> and indicate in your membership application under demographics that you have an interest in Early Childhood to receive free DEC membership as well. Your CEC membership will start right away. You will receive an email once your DEC membership is activated.

New Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) Course

We are pleased to announce a new online professional development opportunity in the area of NAS. This course is based on our webinar series, *Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and Developmental Stages*, and will consist of five modules. Module 1 of the course, “In Utero through Six Months,” is available for enrollment on MyLearning. The series covers strategies and interventions to support children with NAS at different ages.

The module is 75 minutes long, and 1.5 CPD units are available in the areas of EI developmental specialist, EI developmental specialist supervisor, EI service coordinator, and EI service coordinator supervisor.

Click the link below to access the course on MyLearning.

<https://mylearning.dodd.ohio.gov/course/view.php?id=85>

If you have questions, please contact Lori Myers at lori.e.myers@dodd.ohio.gov.

COVID-19 Information for Families of Children with Special Health Care Needs

ODH has compiled recommendations for families who have a child with special health care needs. You can access the recommendations here:

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/checklists/english-checklists/children-youth-special-healthcare-needs-covid-19-checklist>

COVID-19 Public Health Webinar Series

The Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) is sponsoring a four part webinar series to review what is currently known on disability inclusion as it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic. Each session will be 75-minutes.

You can learn more and register here:

<https://www.aucd.org/template/page.cfm?id=379>

Statewide 24/7 Breastfeeding Hotline

The Appalachian Breastfeeding Network (ABN) operates the toll-free 24/7 hotline with live, trained lactation professionals. Services are available free of charge to all callers, including mothers, their families and partners, expectant parents and health care providers.

Hotline: 1-888-588-3423

For more information, please visit here:

<https://www.appalachianbreastfeedingnetwork.org/>

Professional Development Requirements for the Infant Mental Health Credential

The goal of Ohio's Infant Mental Health credential is to implement a set of skills and core competencies that are developmentally appropriate and anchored in relationship-based practices that support the needs of infants and caregivers to reach their greatest wellness.

The credential has three levels:

- Ohio Infant Family Affiliate Level I (OIFA-I)
- Ohio Infant Family Practitioner Level II (OIFP-II), and
- Ohio Infant Mental Health Practitioner III (OIMHP III)

While no specific courses are required, there are *required content areas* and *required hours* for each level:

- OIFA-I: (20 hours required) Relationship-based training, child social-emotional development, maternal or infant health screening tools
- OIFP-II: (30 hours required) Relationship-based training, infant social-emotional development, maternal health, trauma, evidence-based interventions
- OIMHP-III: (40 hours required) Infant mental health, neurodevelopment, infant-family assessment, trauma, evidence-based treatment

Additional guidelines for trainings include the following:

- The training must be at least one-hour long. Trainings less than one hour will not display in the application.

- Up to three hours of a training will be applied. Only 3 hours of a training 3.5 hours or more will be applied to a content area.
- The training must be within that last six years. Trainings older than six years will not display in the application.
- A training can only apply to one content area.

Several state agencies offer courses that meet criteria for the content areas. See OCCRRA's Resources page for a [list](#) of these approved courses. Use the links below to access registration information.

DODD – [Early Intervention website, Providers Tab, Infant Mental Health credential tile](#)

OMHAS, ODE and ODJFS – [Ohio Professional Registry](#)

ODH – [OhioTRAIN](#)

OCCRRA's [Resources](#) page also includes FAQs, a guidance document and instructions for the application process.

Family ECHO

What is Family ECHO?

Family ECHO uses ZOOM technology to connect you with a team of interdisciplinary experts for presentation and discussion on topics related to improving and managing behaviors, self care, family supports and resources. This unique format allows you to learn from home during this unique time. Families and caregivers are encouraged to sign up for sessions early as space is limited.

How Family ECHO works:

Family ECHO meets virtually on a weekly basis (see schedule below) to learn in real time from subject matter experts. Participants have a chance to learn about topics related to children with developmental disabilities including autism. Participants will learn in real-time from subject matter experts and learn about best practices.

Who can participate?

Parents and Caregivers of children with developmental disabilities including autism.



Family ECHO April Sessions and Date

Session	Date	Topic
1	April 16 th Thursday, 4:00pm	Family and Community Resources: Learn about new resources and ideas available to families during the pandemic
2	April 20 th Monday, Noon	Family Support: Anxiety - This session will focus on how to understand and manage the fears and anxiety that children with developmental differences and their families often face including fears related to COVID-19
3	April 23 rd Thursday, 4:00pm	Behavior Management: Reinforcement - Learn how to use principles of reinforcement to increase positive, appropriate behaviors
4	April 27 th Monday, Noon	Behavior Management: Self-Monitoring - Increase independence and decrease the need for adult supervision
5	April 30 th Thursday, 4:00pm	Behavior Management: Smooth Sailing – Preventing Disruptive Behavior

What to expect during ECHO session

- Register and participate in a **60 minute session** using Zoom
- Attend sessions on **registered dates and times**
- Engage in interactive discussion
- Complete survey at the end of sessions to help inform the series

How to Register:

Please use the following link to register:

https://is.gd/NCH_Family_ECHO

Space is limited!