

To: All Early Intervention contract managers and FCFC coordinators
From: Nathan DeDino
Date: November 5, 2020
Subject: Early Intervention Program Updates, #2027

MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

As cases of COVID-19 continue to increase in Ohio and across the United States, we wanted to remind you of the [many resources](#) the Ohio Department of Health has available to provide information about the level of spread in local communities. The [Public Health Advisory Alert system](#) is updated every Thursday and presents helpful data at the county level. These tools are especially helpful as decisions are made at the local level about how best to keep families and EI staff safe.

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

2020 EI Family Questionnaire Comment Reports

DODD was pleased to be able to share open-ended responses from the 2020 EI Family Questionnaire with counties much earlier than usual due to collecting the majority of responses online. Responses to questions 11, 12, 13, 14, and the Additional Comments section were de-identified if the respondent did not provide consent to share comments as is. If the parent consented to share comments as written, the comments were not edited in any way. DODD sent files including comments received on this year's questionnaire from respondents in the county to each Contract Manager and FCFC Coordinator on October 28. These files will not be posted on the EI website and are not intended to be shared or posted publicly. Please contact Taylor Hammond at Taylor.Hammond@dodd.ohio.gov with any questions.

SFY21 Baseline Schedule

SFY21 baseline activities will start in mid-November with Group 2. Details will be sent to these counties on November 17. The full schedule of baseline activities for SFY21 is now posted on the EI website here:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/monitoring>

Monitoring Self-Assessment

As discussed in EI Program Update #2010, DODD is creating self-assessment tools for counties to use to monitor implementation of certain EI requirements as documented on forms introduced last year. DODD anticipates sending out the following documents on November 16:

- Self-assessment tracking sheets, including the names and ETIDs of applicable records, to document the review of records
- Detailed instructions for how to complete the self-assessment and document the results

Counties will be required to complete the self-assessments and report on their results in their midyear program report that is due January 31, 2021. DODD will offer an optional webinar for FCFC coordinators and EI contract managers to provide an overview of the midyear report topics and to review the self-assessment process on November 19 from 10:00-11:00am. In the coming days, DODD will send a link to the webinar to EI contract managers and FCFC coordinators. If you have questions about the monitoring self-assessment process or the webinar, contact Melissa Courts at melissa.courts@dodd.ohio.gov.

Email Addresses in EIDS

In the coming months, the parent email address will be a required field in EIDS. An option will be available to select if the parent does not have an e-mail address or chooses not to share an email address. DODD asks that EI service coordinators begin to collect email addresses from parents and enter them in EIDS in preparation for this change. Collecting this information in EIDS will support EI service coordinators who may be e-mailing families and allow DODD to contact families directly regarding topics such as the annual EI Family Questionnaire.

RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Transition Webinar and Guidance

Thank you to everyone who has registered for the Transition webinar on December 1. Please note that the targeted audience for this webinar is EI Service Coordinators, EISC Supervisors, and Contract Managers. CPDUs are approved for EISCs and EISC Supervisors, and the content will focus on the role of the EISC in facilitating and coordinating transition. On April 13, we will present a Transition webinar for the entire EI Team.

For more information on Transition, please see the guidance documents on the EI website like the Steps for a Successful Transition, the Transition Timeline Checklist and Looks Like/Doesn't Look Like transition guide. You can access them here:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/guidance-documents-and-memos/guidance-documents>

If you have not yet registered for the December or April webinars, you can do so here:

December 1: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4160126897842394384>

April 13: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7887265707328705808>

If you have questions, please contact Karen Kincaid (karen.kincaid@dodd.ohio.gov) or Shelly Palumbo (shelly.palumbo@dodd.ohio.gov).

Charting the Life Course Training

The Nisonger-Family Resource Network of Ohio is sponsoring a Charting the Life Course training on November 18 at 9:00am. You can learn more and register here:

<https://osu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUld--vqzssHtRWTfviyqKGzcA7ZF0PUgE7>