

To: All Early Intervention contract managers and FCFC coordinators
From: Nathan DeDino
Date: January 27, 2023
Subject: Early Intervention Program Updates, #2302

MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

We are now accepting applications from stakeholders interested in participating in one or more of three workgroups reviewing the EI rules. DODD is seeking workgroup members from a variety of backgrounds and is particularly interested in families with children who are, or who have been, served in EI and current members of the EI field. You can learn more about the workgroups and complete a brief application [here](#). Applications are due February 10.

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

DID YOU KNOW?

Continuing our discussion of common Accreditation citations around EI, we remind county boards that they must have a written policy that describes the county board's role in the county EI system. The policy must include how the county board will provide EI services on a year-round basis, the source(s) of funds available for EI services, and the specific role the county board has agreed to fulfill in the EI system (e.g., public awareness/child find, evaluation and assessment, service delivery). Additional details are available in Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 5123-4-01:

<https://dodd.ohio.gov/forms-and-rules/rules-in-effect/5123-4-01>

PROGRAM UPDATES

SFY23 Local Educational Agency (LEA) Notification Baseline

The February 1 Quarterly LEA Reports are used for the state's annual compliance analysis related to LEA notification. DODD is responsible for issuing findings of noncompliance in this area where appropriate. The February 1 Quarterly LEA Report may be run no earlier than January 22 and must be sent to the appropriate LEAs no later than February 1. *You must also email a copy of the full report to DODD no later than February 2.* Submit reports to melissa.courts@dodd.ohio.gov. You are strongly encouraged to maintain a copy of the report in the event that it is needed at a later date for monitoring purposes. DODD sent an email explaining the LEA reporting requirement to all EI contract managers and Family and Children First Council (FCFC) coordinators on January 6. Please remember that parent rights apply to any shared information if personally identifying details are disclosed. Only the applicable pages of the report should be sent to each LEA.

SFY23 45-Day Timeline Baseline

The SFY23 45-Day baseline process is beginning for Group 1 counties. A 45-Day baseline preparation webinar will be held on February 2 from 3:00-4:00pm. We encourage all EI contract managers and FCFC coordinators to attend regardless of whether your county is part of a particular cohort. You can register here:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/trainings/326>

EI Service Coordination Credential Flexibilities

As a reminder, on October 31, 2022, DODD communicated to EI contract managers certain flexibilities available to counties that are experiencing challenges finding personnel qualified to obtain the EI service coordinator credential. If you have questions about how these flexibilities may apply to a particular situation, please contact Tiffany Madden (tiffany.madden@dodd.ohio.gov).

RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Virtual Early Intervention Fidelity Coach Certification

DODD congratulates Sarah Silva, Early Intervention Team Supervisor at the Butler County Board of Developmental Disabilities, for successfully completing the *Fidelity In Practice Certification-Early Intervention* (FIP-EI) course. Sarah is the first participant in Ohio to complete the 12-hour virtual certification process developed by the Family, Infant, Preschool Program and funded by DODD. The entire early intervention management team in Butler County is planning to complete the course. They team will utilize the tools and information learned during visit observations with staff to assess fidelity to evidenced-based practices.

The fidelity coach training is a self-paced online certification course to establish reliability with the use of the FIP-EI observation checklists. The FIP-EI is a set of observation checklists to help supervisors and managers assess practitioner fidelity to evidence-based early intervention practices (natural learning environment practices, coaching, and resource-based practices). The course takes approximately 12 hours to complete. This experience is appropriate for supervisors, managers, master/mentor coaches, and leaders who have a strong foundation in evidence-based practices and have the knowledge and skills to assess others' use of the practices.

Sarah said, "Seeing the reflective questioning and feedback in action in the videos, along with the written materials was a great way to refresh my understanding. Reflective coaching wasn't new to me, but the checklists are a welcome addition to ensuring that all of our staff are coaching in a way that builds a caregiver's capacity to meet the needs of their children and family."

There are a limited number of training slots still available for early intervention supervisors to complete the training. For more information, please contact Tiffany Madden (tiffany.madden@dodd.ohio.gov).

Partner Training: My Child My Connection (MCMC) with Dr. Lyn Ayer

MCMC is a two-part training series that focuses on transition for young children who have a combined vision-hearing loss. The trainings will be held on February 8 and April 12 from 4:00-5:00pm. For more information on the sessions, see the flyer accompanying this Program Updates. Session 1 is approved as professional development for developmental specialists, EI supervisors, EI service coordinators (EISCs) and EI service coordination supervisors, and county board superintendents.

Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRA) Dashboard

DODD is pleased to announce that the upgrades to the Early Intervention Service Coordination Organization Dashboard of the EISC Professional Registry are complete. We would like to thank all EISCs and EISC supervisors who have updated their profiles to reflect their employing agency. For those who have not yet done so, please log into the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR), select the agency you work for, and complete the required fields to link your profile to your place of employment.

Individuals identified as dashboard administrators at each EISC agency will be required to review and approve employee additions to the dashboard.

Please visit the early intervention website for additional information and instructions:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/Early-Intervention-Service-Coordination-Profile-and-Dashboard-Updates>

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My Child My Connection (2-part series)

Presented by: Lyn Ayer, Ph.D.

February 8 & April 12 from 4:00 – 5:00 pm (ET)

Program description: This is a 2-part series that focuses on transition for young children who have a combined vision-hearing loss. Every change in a routine for a child who is deafblind is a “new” learning experience. As a child moves from home to pre-school then later to kindergarten it is a series of continuous transitions – transitions that we may take for granted for ourselves and for children who do not have disabilities. What does a family and the child’s team need to keep in mind while preparing for transition? What does transition mean to a young child who is deafblind?

Guest speaker: Dr. Lyn Ayer has had extensive expertise in working with children with visual impairments, deafblindness, and multiple disabilities throughout her professional career of more than 48 years. Dr. Ayer has been the director of two state deafblind projects, principal of a school for the blind, a rehabilitation worker at an Eye Hospital, and a teacher. She is currently a professional development consultant with the Ohio Center for Deafblind Education.

Session 1: My Child My Connection: Transitioning a toddler to pre-school Feb. 8, 4:00-5:00 p.m. (ET)

Session 1 - Learning Objectives:

1. Learn to plan for a child’s needs as he/she transitions between two very different environments.
2. Determine how to ensure that there is a strong connection maintained between the two environments.

Registration link for session 1: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OCDBEMCMCFeb823>



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Session 2: My Child My Connection: Transitioning to Kindergarten Apr. 12, 4:00-5:00 p.m. (ET)

Learning Objectives:

1. Learn how to make a fluid transition from play to academics.
2. Plan how to regulate and keep a check on the flow of information needed to be shared to and from home.

Registration link for session 2: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OCDBEMCMCApr1223>

Questions? Contact Jodi Dowell, Research Associate, OCDBE, at dowelljr@ucmail.uc.edu



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