

Early Intervention Program Updates #2410 May 17, 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

As we approach the warmer months of summer, take some time to review [DODD's summer safety resource](#). This document shares important information about water safety, dehydration, summer exposure and more. Please share relevant information with the families you serve.

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

PROGRAM UPDATES

New Logo

We are excited to announce new branding for Early Intervention that is consistent with the statewide branding released last year for all Ohio agencies and programs. We are in the process of updating the logos that are available on the EI website for download. Stay tuned!

EIDS Changes for New Rules

The Early Intervention Data System (EIDS) will be updated to reflect changes in new rules that will be implemented July 1, 2024. The changes that are being made are outlined below.

- Eligibility is being edited so all children are eligible until age three. This will be applicable for all children served in EI prior to 7/1 and going forward
- The diagnosis on the list dropdown options are being edited to reflect the changes in Appendix C of 5123-10-02. All previously entered diagnosis on the list information will remain valid eligibility reasons.
- The “Profession/Discipline” dropdown list is being edited on the evaluation and assessment pages to reflect the changes in Appendix B of 5123-10-02.
- The child outcomes summary (COS) statement verbiage is being edited on the IFSP and Exit pages to reflect the changes on the new EI-04. These updated options will be available going forward and all existing data will be updated with this verbiage, as well.
- The “Transition contact info shared with the LEA” field on the IFSP page is being edited to select “Yes” in all records going forward. Existing records will reflect the option selected prior to July 1 and responses of “No” will be able to be edited to “Yes.”

- The “Funding Source” dropdown on the IFSP page is being edited to reflect the funding sources included in 5123-10-03.
- The “Method” field on the IFSP page is being removed.
- The verbiage on Transition Steps and Services page referencing the specific section on the IFSP is being edited to reflect the verbiage on the new EI-04. The character limit of this field is also being increased.
- The “Exit Reason” dropdown options on the exit page are being edited to match the applicable exit reasons on the new EI-10.

We are putting together a more detailed document outlining all changes, including screenshots of the pages that are being updated, which will be distributed after July 1. We are also updating the EIDS Data Entry Guide to reflect these changes. The updated data entry guide will be posted on the EI website after July 1. In the interim, write in to eids@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov with any questions regarding the EIDS changes that will be made.

2024 EI Family Questionnaire

The 2024 EI Family Questionnaire process is underway, and we are beginning to receive responses in Survey Monkey and via mail. The department sent a first round of reminder emails to parents earlier this week. We also sent preliminary response rates were sent to EI Contract Managers this week. We appreciate counties engaging families and encouraging them to complete the questionnaire. Contact Taylor Hammond (taylor.hammond@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov) with any questions about this year’s EI Family Questionnaire.

SFY24 Transition Baseline

The EI monitoring team extracted data for the Transition analysis on April 23 and data inquiries were sent to all participating counties May 7. Responses are due back by May 22.

SFY24 TRS Baseline

The monitoring team is continuing to review and verify the applicable verification documentation. Due to an exceptional number of incomplete submissions, the clarification process has taken longer than anticipated. Memos are expected to be sent some time in June.

RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Early Intervention Rule Revision Webinars

Over the next several weeks, the Ohio Early Intervention team will be presenting four informational webinars regarding EI rule revisions that will become effective as July 1, 2024. Please see the details below for more information and registration.

EI Rule Revision Overview

Date/Time: May 30, 2024; 9:00AM-10:30AM

Registration link:

https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_uGYZWncmR22v7zKf_ZOvnA#/registration

Ohio Early Intervention Eligibility and Assessment Process Overview

Date/Time: June 6, 2024; 9:00AM-10:30AM

Registration link:

https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_Mx9NMPdhRH2cPzFQoq1DaQ#/registration

Ohio Early Intervention IFSP Process Overview

Date/Time: June 13, 2024; 9:00AM-10:30AM

Registration link:

https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_K4o28KcJTkO5aBu98p8cZg#/registration

Ohio Early Intervention Transition and Procedural Safeguards Overview

Date/Time: June 27, 2024; 9:00AM-10:30AM

Registration link:

https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_Zh8oRX5qTcqxP-Nswfw3mg#/registration

These live events will be recorded and available for post-event viewing. All Contract Managers and EI service coordinators and supervisors are required to attend or view the recordings of these webinars, although these events are recommended for all EI personnel. Continuing professional development units (CPDUs) will be offered for EI service coordinators and supervisors.

Battelle Developmental Inventory – August 2024 Training Date

On August 7, there will be a virtual training for the Battelle Developmental Inventory. Six hours of CPDUs are offered for developmental specialists for this course. Please use the link below to register:

<https://pitt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMvd-mgrz8tE9DVdAxbR84O2xnaum83vALT>

Notification Regarding Service Coordination Credentials Requirements Effective July 1, 2024

Currently, the EI service coordinator credentialing rule allows up to two years to complete modules 1-8 of Principles of Service Coordination (POSC). The rule does not require a specific cadence for completion of each module. To ensure that new EI service coordinators and supervisors have the knowledge and skills to perform their duties as soon as possible, the *revised* rule (*planned effective date of July 1, 2024*) will require that modules 1-5 be completed within the first year of being credentialed. Any EI service coordinator or supervisor holding a one-year credential, needing to renew *after* July 1, 2024, must complete the first five modules of POSC to do so. The POSC modules that are required to be completed are:

- (EI-021) POSC Module One: Introduction to Early Intervention
- (EI-041) POSC Module Two: Individualized Family Service Plan Process Part I
- (EI-042) POSC Module Three: Individualized Family Service Plan Process Part II
- (EI-043) POSC Module Four: Monitoring Service Delivery; and
- (EI-044) POSC Module Five: Transition

If you currently hold a one-year credential that will require renewal after July 1, 2024, please complete the modules in time to renew your credential. Failure to complete the required modules will result in a lapse of your credential. Please email Tiffany Madden (tiffany.madden@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov) with any questions.

Earworm Podcast

This podcast features conversations with a wide array of professionals, family members, advocates, and scientists whose experiences, ideas, curiosities, and activities are committed to ensuring that all children who are deaf or hard of hearing can thrive. The Earworm podcast is available for streaming anywhere you listen to podcasts and on www.earwormpodcast.org. New episodes are released each month.

GENERAL SUPERVISION HIGHLIGHT: CHILD ASSESSMENT

Each child referred to Early Intervention (EI) must have eligibility determined, child and family assessments completed (with consent), and an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) developed within 45 days of the referral to EI. A child assessment must be conducted initially and at least annually by qualified personnel in order to identify the child's unique strengths and needs, including the child's participation in family routines and activities and the parent's ability to successfully engage the child in family routines and activities, and the early intervention services appropriate to meet those needs.

The family's EI service coordinator must provide prior written notice (PWN) and obtain the parent's informed consent for completing the assessment using form EI-02. In addition to providing PWN and meeting the timeline, there are additional assessment requirements that must be met, depending on whether an evaluation is also required.

When an evaluation *is* required, the assessment must include—

- A review of the results of the evaluation

When an evaluation is *not* required, the assessment must include—

- Review of the child's history through parent interview and medical, educational, or other records
- Gathering information from other sources such as family members, other caregivers, medical providers, social workers and educators, as necessary, to understand the full scope of the child's unique strengths and needs

In addition, the child assessment must include the following:

- Be conducted by qualified personnel (as defined in OAC 5123-10-02 Appendix C) inclusive of at least two separate licenses/disciplines
- Be conducted in settings and times that are convenient for the family
- Unless clearly not feasible to do so, be conducted in the native language of the child
- Include personal observations of the child; and
- Identify the child's level of functioning in adaptive, cognitive, communication, physical (including fine and gross motor, vision, hearing, and nutrition), and social and emotional developmental domains.

Guidance and Resources

- OAC 5123-10-02(F) and (I)
- [IFSP Guidance Document](#)

Materials to Review when Monitoring

- Assessment documentation (EI-04)
- Case notes with assessment information and date
- Data entered on the assessment page in EIDS
- PWN and consent (EI-02)
- Review credentials of qualified personnel completing child assessment to ensure that they are valid, and up to date.

Tips

- Assessment team members complete the child assessment information for EI-04.
- Remember that at least one assessor should be present in person to complete the child assessment.
- Assessment is used for program planning- determining the family and child's needs

- Assessment is important in developing individualized outcomes to meet the unique needs of each child and family
- Assessment information is used to determine the appropriate child outcome statement (COS).