

Early Intervention Program Updates #2422 November 12, 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

We started these biweekly communications to the EI field a couple months after I became Part C Coordinator in 2015. During the past almost ten years, this communication has been our primary way of communicating with you about guidance, new training opportunities, upcoming due dates, and other important updates. One important update I would like to share with you today is that this will be the last EI Program Updates from me.

I maintained the Part C Coordinator role this past year to help facilitate a smooth transition in lead agency from DODD to DCY. With this transition now complete, I am pleased to turn the reins over to Taylor Hammond. Effective November 18, Taylor will become the new Part C Coordinator. Taylor has served as the state's Part C Data Manager for more than a decade and brings significant experience in data, monitoring, and evidence-based practices that will be invaluable in her role as Part C Coordinator.

Ten years is a long time, and we have accomplished much together. As I reflect, I am most proud of the culture of collaboration that we have built between the lead agency and the many EI stakeholders, especially our EI service coordination agencies and EI service providers. That collaboration has led to our EI system serving more children than any time in more than ten years, implementation of evidence-based EI practices throughout the state, and Ohio receiving a "meets requirements" determination from the US Department of Education multiple times in a row.

Thank you for your support these past years. I am grateful for the opportunities I have had to learn from you. I look forward to continuing to use these lessons learned throughout the rest of my career. I wish all of you the very best as you continue to move Ohio's EI system forward and do what's right for kids!

PROGRAM UPDATES

Updated Transition Monitoring Verification Standards

Updated Transition verification standards have been posted on the EI website under the Data and Monitoring tab. The revised standards align with new rules and forms, and they reference applicable related requirements. Updated standards for Timely Receipt of Services (TRS) were posted in early October and updated 45-Day verification standards will be available in the coming weeks. You can access the standards here:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/monitoring>.

TPC Meetings and IFSP Reviews

Under Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 5123-10-02(L)(2)(b), the Transition Planning Conference (TPC) must be conducted during an IFSP meeting. There may be times when an IFSP review is completed and, within a short period of time, a subsequent IFSP review is completed to conduct the child's TPC. If nothing changes on the IFSP grid that was completed at the IFSP prior to an IFSP review/TPC, you will only need to review the outcome(s), reflect the update within the review section at the bottom of each outcome page, and complete a IFSP new signature page. Additional details are available here:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/storage/ocali-ims-sites/ocali-ims-oei/documents/EI-Program-Updates-1924.pdf>

Service Coordinator Reminder

Service coordinators should check the "Referrals" and "Manage Documents" sections in the EI Data System (EIDS) not just for potential eligibility documentation, but also for information that can be used by the evaluation and assessment team. For example, referral reasons, diagnostic testing results, and Public Children Services Agency (PCSA) forms can provide crucial information about the child and family. It is important that local EI programs have a system in place for ensuring that this information is shared with the team both as part of the initial evaluation and assessment process and ongoing assessment.

EI State Team Update

Melissa Courts, EI Monitoring Consultant, has accepted a new position at DCY in the Bureau of Professional Development effective November 18. Melissa will serve as a project manager supporting the agency's statewide coordinated system of professional development. Melissa served as an early intervention monitoring consultant for more than a decade. She was instrumental in establishing protocols and procedures for effective monitoring in Ohio's EI system. We are grateful for her time in EI and wish her well in her new position.

RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Principles of Service Coordination: Module One Open for Enrollment

Principles of Service Coordination: Module One – Introduction to Early Intervention has been updated to align with new rule effective and is available on DODD MyLearning. Revisions to *Principles of Service Coordination Modules 2-8* are underway. Keep an eye

on the biweekly Program Updates for notifications regarding these trainings. You can access *Principles of Service Coordination: Module One* here:

<https://mylearning.dodd.ohio.gov/course/view.php?id=488>