



**Department
of Health**

Training, Technical Assistance, and State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) Initiatives

**Jessica Simmons
Unit Manager
Bureau of Early Intervention**

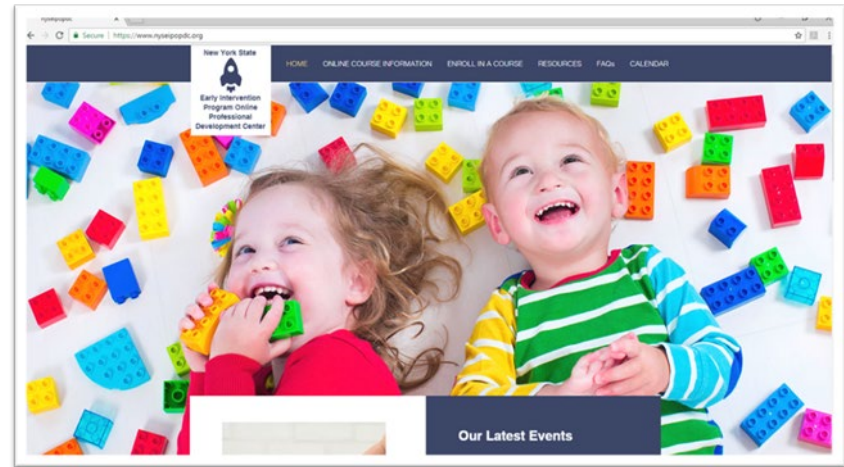


June 2022

Training

Statewide Training – Measurement Incorporated

- Self-paced courses available (9)
- Child Outcomes Summary (COS) training in development
- 2022 Spring Training Needs Assessment
- Course redeliveries (12)
- Course revisions



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

June 2022

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

- X responses (phone/email)
- Parent Consent Using Electronic Systems
- Make-up Policy Due to COVID
- Masks, Toys, Groups
- Tuberculosis (TB) FAQs
- Revised Notification to OPWDD Tool Kit
- New Referral Form (fillable)
- Transition Guidance for Families – Collaboration with the New York State Education Department
- NYS B5 Early Childhood Technical Assistance Alignment (NYS Council on Children and Families) – (Rainbow Chart)
- Telehealth Guidance



Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) and BEI Telehealth Training

- Developed as part of the SSIP training in collaboration with WIHD
- Describes how telehealth can be used in early intervention
- Explains the different models of telehealth
- Describes considerations when using telehealth
- Includes resources/checklists for parents and providers

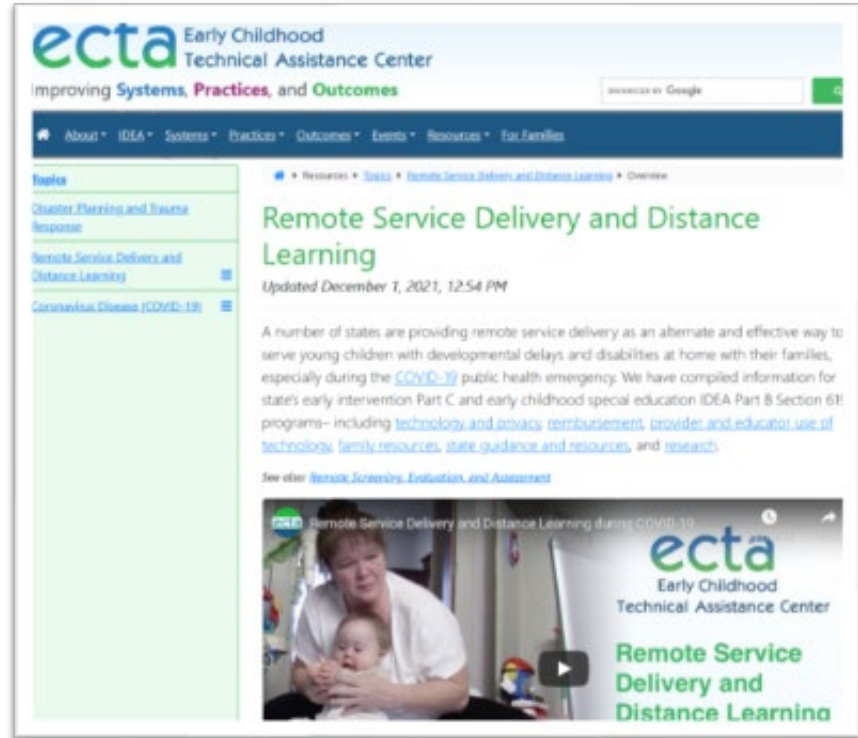
EARLY INTERVENTION AND TELEHEALTH: BEST PRACTICES

ONLINE TRAINING MODULE

<https://onlinelearningmodules.wihd.org/course-cat/?cat=early-intervention>

Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center

- Terminology
- Resources from Professional Associations (AOTA, APTA, ASHA)
- Additional Resources on Telehealth and Telepractice
- Equity
- Videos
- Webinars



The screenshot displays the homepage of the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA). The header features the ECTA logo and the tagline "Improving Systems, Practices, and Outcomes". A navigation menu includes links for "About", "IDEA", "Systems", "Practical", "Outcomes", "Events", "Resources", and "For Families". A search bar is located in the top right corner.

The main content area features a sidebar on the left with a "Topics" section containing links for "Disaster Planning and System Response", "Remote Service Delivery and Distance Learning", and "Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)". The main article is titled "Remote Service Delivery and Distance Learning" and is dated "Updated December 7, 2021, 12:54 PM". The article text states: "A number of states are providing remote service delivery as an alternate and effective way to serve young children with developmental delays and disabilities at home with their families, especially during the COVID-19 public health emergency. We have compiled information for state's early intervention Part C and early childhood special education IDEA Part B Section 611 programs— including [technology and privacy](#), [reimbursements](#), [provider and educator use of technology](#), [family resources](#), [state guidance and resources](#), and [research](#)." Below the text is a video player with a play button and a thumbnail image of a woman holding a baby. The video title is "Remote Service Delivery and Distance Learning during COVID-19".

Telehealth Guidance

SSIP Overview

State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)

- Required by the US Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)
- Improve results for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families
- Focus on family outcomes
 - Family-directed Assessments
 - Family Outcomes Survey



SSIP Advisory Group



- Provide advice and stakeholder feedback on the plan, progress, and implementation of the SSIP
- Review ongoing data
- Review Department developed materials and provide feedback
- Support the Department in our efforts to improve family outcomes

Family-Directed Assessment

Family-Directed Assessment

- Family-directed assessments help to determine the resources, priorities, and concerns of the family.
- Family-directed assessments must be offered to all families as part of the multidisciplinary evaluation (MDE).
- Family-directed assessments are not routinely completed by families in the New York State Early Intervention Program.



Revised the List of Recommended Family-Directed Assessment Tools

Note: The following is a sample of suggested family assessment tools. It is not an exhaustive list or the size of these specific tools required.

Family-Directed Assessment Tools

Assessment, Evaluation, and Progressing System for Infants and Children (AEPSEI)
Family Assessment Survey, Revised Edition, 2020
Adriana Lopez, Ph.D., & Diane Swisher, Ph.D. (1981)

Conversation Guide
Turnbull & Turnbull (2001)

Eye-Map

Family Assessment Form: A Practice-Based Approach to Assessing Family Functioning
Child Welfare League of America, Inc. (1977) Children's Bureau of Southern California

Family Assessment Interview Guide
Turnbull & Turnbull (1998)

Intervention Planning Realtime-Based Interview - Checklist
Project STEERSCALE
R. A. McWilliam (1998)

Family Functioning Style Scale
David, A. G., Zayas, C. M., & Dant, C. J. (1988)

Family Information Preference Inventory
Turnbull & Turnbull (1998)

Family Needs Scale
David, C. J., Cooper, C. S., Weidman, J. C., Spivak, R. D., & Chao, J. H. (1977)

Family Needs Survey
Bailey, J. D. B. (1988) (1993)

Family Support Scale
David, C. J., Zayas, C. M., & Johnson, V. (1988)

Functional Intervention Planning: The Realtime-Based Interview
Project STEERSCALE
R.A. McWilliam (1998)

Identifying Family Activities and Realtime Conversation Starters
Family-Centered Approaches to Collaborative Early Intervention Training and Services (FACTIS)
(1999) Florida State University

Infant-Toddler and Family Involvement (ITFI) & Manual
Tracey W. Jolly, Ed.M., & Sally Portmore, MD. (2002)

CASFOOLS

Expanding Your Child's Learning Opportunities

Now that you have selected the best activities for everyday child learning, the next step is to use this information to provide your child lots of opportunities to use his or her answers to do things (like it is able to do and to learn new things). The following is a helpful way for providing your child school-based learning opportunities.

Interest-Based Activities	When/Where/Who/What/How/Why/How Often	What My Child Will Do	What I Can Do To Help My Child Learn	How I Will Know My Child is Ready

CASFOOLS

Asset-Based Context Matrix® Assessment

Activity Settings

- What does your child and family do every day or almost every day?
- What are those things that have to be done, such as meals?
- What does your child and family do on certain days, on weeks?
- What are the special events in which your child and family?
- What are the special activities or events as part of your child's life?

Child/Family Interests

- How does your child/family choose to spend time?
- What are your child's favorite toys, people, and events?
- What things are interesting or enjoyable to your child and family?

Child/Family Assets

- What does your child and family work especially hard at doing?
- What are your child and family especially good at doing?
- What are your child and family's strengths, skills, and accomplishments?

Functional Meaningful Interactions

- What does your child do to get started in play?
- How often does your child do to keep play or an interaction with you or others going?
- How does your child get what he or she wants?
- How does your child get to where he or she wants to go?

Opportunities

- What activities does your child get to do everyday?
- How often does your child get to do his or her favorite things?
- Where are the places your child gets to do the things he or she likes and can do?
- Who does your child get to play or interact with on a regular basis?

Participation

- What does your child actually do during an activity that he or she likes to do and is interested in?
- What are the specific ways in which your child participates in interactions with objects and people?

Possibilities

- What are the ways that your child's current opportunities and participation can be expanded?
- What interactions and skills would you like your child to develop?

Copyright © 2002 • Family, School and Prevention Program

Family-Directed Assessment Templates



DRAFT

Family-Directed Assessment

Child's Name: _____
 Last Name First Name Middle Name

Date of Birth: _____
 (MM/DD/YYYY)

Family member(s) participating in the assessment	Other family members(s) that live in the household with the child
Name and relationship to child	Name and relationship to child

As part of your child's Multidisciplinary Evaluation (MDE), you are given the chance to take part in a voluntary family-directed assessment. Your participation can be helpful in determining the concerns, priorities, and resources of your family related to caring for and enhancing your child development. It is not a test of your parenting skills. The family-directed assessment is based on information provided by you and your family in a personal one-to-one discussion with a member of your evaluation team.

The family-directed assessment can also help you to think about what you need most from early intervention services and other community services or supports, for both your child and family. Additionally, it can help you and your individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) team plan for your IFSP meeting if your child is deemed eligible for the Early Intervention Program. All of the information that you share is kept private. You decide what information from the assessment should be included in the evaluation report and discussed at your IFSP meeting.

What questions can I answer before you make a decision about participating in the family-directed assessment?

Please check and sign:

Yes, I would like to participate in the family-directed assessment



Family-Directed Assessment Training

- The training is available as a self-paced course on the WizIQ learning management platform.
- Providers can earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and hours towards the professional development requirements outlined in the Provider Agreement.



<https://nyseiponlinepdcenter.wiziqxt.com/>

Resource Guide to Assist Families and Providers

- Childcare
- Head Start/Early Head Start
- Preschool Special Education
- Home Visiting Program
- Technology
- Housing
- Nutrition/Food
- Home Heating/Cooling
- Health Care
 - Health Insurance
 - Mental Health
 - Finding a Primary Care Provider
- Employment/Education



Future Work (family-directed assessments)

- Develop a video for families
- Develop an infographic and/or brochure for families and providers
- Develop a script for service coordinators and evaluators to explain the family-directed assessment to families



June 2022

Family Outcomes

Family Outcomes Survey Infographics

Parents

Family Outcomes Survey

We want to hear from YOU!

Families have very important information to share about how early intervention services help their child and family! You can help to improve EIP services for children and families by completing your Family Outcomes Survey today! You can complete your survey on paper or electronically.

Why does the EIP need to hear from families?

- ❖ We want to better understand how EIP services can help your family.
- ❖ Hearing from you shows us where we need to make improvements to better serve all families!
- ❖ High-quality early intervention services can improve outcomes for children, families, and communities.

What do we hope for you and your family?

We want to ensure that your family:

- Knows about your child's & family's rights concerning EIP services.
- Knows how to communicate more effectively with the people who work with your child & family.
- Understands your child's special needs and does things with and for your child that are helpful for your child's development.

What happens with the survey once you complete it?

- Individual responses are kept confidential.
- A summary of all families' responses is included in a yearly report.
- This report is used to help make the Program better.

Family Outcomes Survey Response Rate for 2020-2021

Last year, only 14% of surveys were returned, leaving 86% of families' voices unheard!

We want to ensure that all families' voices are represented!

Please take a few minutes to complete and return your survey.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the Bureau of Early Intervention at beipub@health.ny.gov.

Providers

Family Outcomes Survey

Improving outcomes for children and families is the central focus of the New York State Early Intervention Program (EIP). To evaluate how effective families perceive the EIP to be in helping them to achieve their family outcomes, the Bureau of Early Intervention sends out a "Family Outcomes Survey" to obtain their feedback. This information is crucial to improving outcomes for children and families in the EIP on federal, state, and local levels.

The Family Outcomes Survey

- ❖ Measures the families' experience as result of their participation in Early Intervention (EI) services and supports.
- ❖ Determines the helpfulness of EI programs for federal reporting.
- ❖ Helps determine Program improvements for future EI families.

As a Service Coordinator or Service Provider, you have a vital role:

- Verify and update phone number & mailing address information in the State data system.
- Explain to families why their feedback is important.
- Inform families that they should receive the survey in the mail after their child exits the Program and encourage them to complete the survey as soon as they receive it.
- Remind families that we want to hear from all families.
- Encourage parents to complete their survey by mail or online, as soon as they receive it.

What do we hope for the families we serve?

We want to ensure that each family:

- Knows about their child's & family's rights concerning EIP services.
- Knows how to communicate more effectively with the people that work with their child & family.
- Understands their child's special needs and does things with and for their child that are helpful for their child's development.

Family Outcomes Survey Response Rate for 2020 -2021

Last Year, only 14% of surveys were returned, leaving 86% of families' voices unheard!

We want to ensure that ALL families' voices are represented and with your help this can be accomplished!

If you or any of the families you serve have any questions about this process, please reach out to us at beipub@health.ny.gov.

June 2022

Family Initiatives

The Early Intervention Family Initiatives Coordination Services Project



- Partners Training
- Website
- Video Vignettes (EI topics)
- Engage with parents as stakeholders

Welcome to the Early Intervention Program Video



NYSDOH – Early Intervention Community of Families Facebook Group and EI Families Listserv



- Are you interested in upcoming trainings for parents and caregivers?
- Are you looking for resources on developmental delays and disabilities?
- Do you want to share your ideas with the State Early Intervention Program?
- Do you want to learn about new State guidance and policies?

If you answered YES, sign up for the New York State Early Intervention Program Families Listserv (NYS EIP Families Listserv)

1. Send an e-mail to listserv@listserv.health.state.ny.us - write "Subscribe" in the subject line.
2. In the body of the e-mail, write "Subscribe NYS_EIP_Families-L", then your first name and last name
3. Remove any e-mail signatures, then click send
4. You will receive a Listserv confirmation e-mail. Click the link in this e-mail to confirm your subscription. If you do not see this confirmation e-mail in your inbox, please check your spam/junk folder for the e-mail.
5. If you have any trouble subscribing, please e-mail BEI.SSIP@health.ny.gov



Department
of Health

Bureau of
Early Intervention


www.facebook.com/groups/NYSDOHEI



Department
of Health

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's “Learn the Signs. Act Early.” (LTSAE) Campaign and Bright by Text

LTSAE and Bright by Text information added to:

- EI Facebook group posts 
- EI Families Listserv



NYS Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

Future Work

(Family Outcomes Survey - FOS)

- Include the FOS infographic with the survey
- Develop a video for families
- Add information on the FOS to our relevant training courses for providers



Equity in Family Outcomes

Strategies to Improve Representativeness

- Identifying additional survey methodology changes to support increasing survey return response rates and representativeness of family outcomes data
- Identifying and strengthening relationships with community partners and targeted community groups, to enhance family engagement from all families
- Developing outreach materials that promote family engagement and feedback



Early Intervention Coordinating Council (EICC)

- Development of a new EICC parent member application
- Recruitment (2 seats)
- Promotional activities



Questions?

