

EI Breakfast Club

May 18th, 2026



MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO



AGENDA

EI Updates

- General program updates
- Policy and Monitoring
- Professional Development
- Expansion of qualified personnel list



UPDATES



GENERAL PROGRAM
UPDATES

EI COMMUNICATION PAGE ON EI WEBSITE

- New page to streamline and organize information that has been communicated in different ways
- Replaces former Advisory Council page
- Includes:
 - EI Program Updates
 - EI Breakfast Club (EI office hours) – former recordings and slides and registration links for future calls
 - EI memos
 - Early Identification, Inclusion & Home Visiting subcommittee

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/ei-communications>

CYAC EARLY IDENTIFICATION, INCLUSION & HOME VISITING SUBCOMMITTEE

Structure

- Hybrid format, open meeting
- Public attendance is welcome and encouraged

Upcoming meetings

- **7/13** 10:00am -12:00pm
- **9/14** 10:00am -12:00pm
- **11/9** 10:00am -12:00pm
- In-person locations: TBD
- Teams link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/26156357735157?p=Onv8wMop50xZ95i6oK>

Access information about the subcommittee on the Ohio EI website:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/advisory-council>

Reach out to Christine Sander at christine.sander@nationwidechildrens.org if you have questions, comments, or topics for future meetings.

UPDATES



POLICY/MONITORING

DEVELOPMENTAL SPECIALIST CERTIFICATION RULE

- Posted for public comment through May 6
- Next step – Common Sense Initiative

Rule Clarification (EI and HMG)

- Both EI and HMG rules will be in 5180 Division 8, but EI will be in Chapter 1 and HMG will be in Chapter 3 at DCY:
 - EI is currently OAC 5180-10 and moving to OAC 5180:8-1
 - HMG is currently OAC 5180-8 and moving to OAC 5180:8-3

2026 EI ANNUAL FAMILY QUESTIONNAIRE

- In the process of distributing
 - All families with children served on March 1
 - Primarily distributed via email
 - Sent via mail if no email address, not valid, or opted not to receive surveys through Survey Monkey
 - Translated into Spanish and 9 additional languages (9 additional languages sent via mail)
- Collecting responses through June 12
- Analysis to follow – data for APR and county reports
- Quantitative reports and qualitative reports to be created and sent upon completion

UPDATES



PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

DS CERTIFICATION RENEWAL REMINDERS

In June, there will be an uptick in the number of Five-Year Developmental Specialist (DS) certifications. Reminders to prepare for this:

- Upload a PDF copy of DODD-issued certifications into the “Credential” tab of the OPR profile.
- Upload an official copy of college transcripts to the “Education” tab in their OPR profile.

Verification of documents, as well as applications, may take up to 30 business days to process in the OPR. Applications will not open until college transcripts and DODD-issued DS certifications are verified by OCCRRA, so it is important to upload these documents at least 60 business days prior to the expiration date of your current certification.

Additional information:

- [DS Certification User Guide for Current DODD-Issued DS Certification Holders](#)
- Questions regarding OPR functionality or the status of submissions can be sent to credential@occrra.org.
- Questions regarding renewal requirements can be sent to eitraining@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov.

**EXPANSION OF
QUALIFIED
PERSONNEL
LIST**

Addition of EISCs and
EISC Supervisors

EXPANSION OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL LIST

- DCY [Procedure Letter 42](#) designates EISCs and EISC supervisors as qualified personnel
- As outlined in Appendix B of OAC rule [5180-10-02](#), only qualified personnel may conduct evaluations and assessments or provide early intervention services
- **Expansion** - Local early intervention programs may choose, but are not required, to utilize EISCs and/or EISC supervisors to complete evaluations and assessments
- Additional information regarding objectives and considerations to follow

EXPANSION OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL LIST - OBJECTIVE

- Evaluation and child assessment are among the required minimum components of a statewide Early Intervention system, as outlined in [34 CFR 303.113](#).
- The intent of designating EISCs and EISC supervisors as qualified personnel is to help ensure this minimum component can be met statewide
 - Substantially increases the number of EI professionals available to complete evaluations and assessments
 - Helps to address the sustainability of Ohio's EI system

EXPANSION OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL LIST - CONSIDERATIONS

- Every local system is different, and local leadership may determine whether it is beneficial and appropriate for EISCs and/or EISC supervisors in their counties to complete evaluations and assessments.
- This may be a great way for counties to expand their pool of evaluators and assessors, as an ongoing practice or an as needed basis.
- Considerations:
 - EISC caseloads and capacity
 - Knowledge of child development and evaluation/assessment tools and processes
 - Local EI system, structure, and funding

EISC CASELOADS AND CAPACITY

- The primary responsibility of EISCs is first and foremost to ensure their mandated responsibilities outlined in [OAC 5180-10-02\(N\)](#) are met.
- Beyond these specific mandates, service coordination is a complex, relationship-based role that includes care coordination, resource linkage, and more.
- Considerations
 - Based on the EISC caseloads, families' needs, and any additional roles or duties, do they have the capacity to meet these requirements for each child and family on their service coordination caseload, including maintaining the important relationship with the families as their Service Coordinator, and take on any additional duties such as evaluation/assessment?
 - Are EISCs already involved in the evaluation and assessment process in any way?

KNOWLEDGE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND E&A TOOLS

- It is vital for the evaluation and assessment team to thoroughly understand child development, the applicable evaluation tool, and [DEC Recommended Practices](#) around assessment.
 - This allows the team to gather comprehensive information about the child's current levels of development and daily activities and routines, along with the priorities and concerns of the family.
- Considerations
 - How long has the EISC been in that role?
 - How knowledgeable are EISCs/EISC supervisors, and other evaluators who may participate in evaluations and assessments about child development and about the applicable evaluation tool?
 - Do you have enough evaluators and assessors in your county who are trained on the applicable evaluation/assessment tool?
 - How can evaluators/assessors be paired up to ensure knowledge of child development and the tool are maximized?

LOCAL EI SYSTEM, STRUCTURE, AND FUNDING

Considerations

- Are there any gaps in your evaluation and assessment teams currently?
- Do you have a contingency plan for when evaluators/assessors vacate their positions or are on extended leave?
- Who may be available to assist with evaluation and assessment?
- How does evaluation, assessment, and service coordination fit into your overall EI budget?
- Could EISCs be used as evaluators/assessors to free up other providers for service delivery?

QUESTIONS REGARDING EXPANSION OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL

- We encourage anyone considering the option of having EISCs and/or EISC supervisors as qualified personnel to reach out to ei@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov
 - We will be happy to talk through scenarios and work with you on how this can be best implemented in your county
- Please reach out with any additional questions or thoughts on this process, or suggestions about helpful guidance or trainings for evaluators/assessors
- June EI Breakfast club will be focused primarily on this topic – we will provide additional details/guidance and answer questions

