

April 28, 2026

MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

With May just around the corner, I am excited to launch my favorite activity: the annual EI family questionnaire. To me, there is nothing more valuable than hearing directly from the families we serve. Their feedback highlights what's working well and where improvements can be made, informing our program decisions to ensure they always lead to the best possible outcomes for children and families—both now and in the future. Importantly, the questionnaire responses also serve as a powerful reminder of the incredible work done in Early Intervention every day, and the profound impact this program makes on our children and families. I hope you will join me in my excitement as we kick off this year's family questionnaire!

Please feel free to reach out to me at Taylor.Hammond@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov with ideas, questions, or suggestions any time.

PROGRAM UPDATES

2026 Annual EI Family Questionnaire

The 2026 EI Family Questionnaire will be underway soon, with plans to distribute the questionnaires in early May to families with children served in EI as of March 1. Like the past few years, most questionnaires will be distributed via email and collected online with Survey Monkey. DCY will continue to send questionnaires via mail if the primary caregiver identified in the Early Intervention Data System (EIDS) does not have an email address listed, the email address has been identified as invalid, or the parent has opted out of receiving inquiries from Survey Monkey. Additionally, the department continues to translate the questionnaire into any language that has been identified as the primary language for at least five primary caregivers in the population receiving the questionnaire. All questionnaires in languages besides Spanish and English will also be distributed via mail.

The DCY EI team will host a webinar on May 6 at 2:00 PM to review the EI Family Questionnaire process and share tips for engaging families. Register [here](#) for the webinar. We encourage anyone involved in the Family Questionnaire process to attend. DCY will also send an email to each county with additional information and a list of questionnaire recipients around the time of questionnaire distribution.

Developmental Specialist Certification Rule Posted for Public Comment

As a reminder, the EI Developmental Specialist Certification Rule is posted for public comment [here](#) through May 6. Please review and submit any comments by this date. You can also sign up to receive notifications about DCY rule packages on the “Email Alerts and Additional Rule Information” tab of this page.

May 1 Local Educational Agency Reporting Requirement

As a reminder, the May 1st quarterly Local Educational Agency (LEA) reporting requirement is due soon. Under Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 5180-10-02(L)(1)(b), the EI service coordination agency must notify the LEA of children who will turn three within the next year by the first day of February, May, August, and November. This report is available in the EI Data System (EIDS) in both Excel and PDF formats.

This quarterly report must be provided to the LEAs no later than May 1. The report does not need to be submitted to DCY, but we encourage you to keep a copy for your records. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Hale and Becca Muntean (Erin.Hale@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov and Rebecca.Muntean@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov).

State Fiscal Year 2026 45-Day Compliance Analysis

Activities related to SFY26 45-Day baseline compliance analysis continue. Compliance data was extracted April 22. Data inquiries are scheduled to be sent to applicable counties May 7 and will be due back to DCY May 22. Please contact EI Policy and Monitoring consultants, Erin Hale (Erin.Hale@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov) and Becca Muntean (Rebecca.Muntean@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov) with any questions.

RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Preparing for Assessment: Guidelines and Resources for Children with Sensory Impairments

This May 1 live session is specifically designed for preschool/Part B professionals, Early Intervention administrators, and LEAs who support assessment teams. During the one-hour session, an expert specialist panel will review recommended assessment practices and specialized tools, the roles of professionals on assessment teams for children with sensory impairments, and how to access and utilize specialized state resources. Register [here](#) to attend.

This webinar is Ohio Approved (ST 10161834) and eligible for one (1.0) hour of credit for EI Developmental Specialist/Supervisor, EI Service Coordinator Supervisor, and

Service and Support Administration through the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD). Please note that this webinar will NOT be recorded and you must attend the live session to access this information and the expert panel.

Save the Date - Act Early Ohio Summit 2026

The Act Early Initiative promotes collaboration among early childhood programs in states and territories so children with autism or other developmental disabilities can be identified early and get the services and support they and their families need. Act Early Ohio is hosting a summit June 3 at the conference center at Nationwide Children's Hospital. See [this flyer](#) for highlights and registration information. Be on the lookout for additional information in the coming weeks!

Training Opportunity: Keeping the Infant in Mind

Join Dr. Robert Gallen on June 23 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM for the *Keeping the Infant in Mind* webinar. Additional details, including the training description and registration instructions, are available in this [training flyer](#). As seats are extremely limited for this training opportunity, we ask that registration is limited to no more than two individuals per county. Please contact eitraining@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov with any questions.