

Family Directed Assessment Rubric

Under 34 CFR 303.321(c)(2) and OAC 5123-10-02(l)(5), the Family Directed Assessment (FDA) must identify information about families’ resources, priorities, and concerns and the services and supports needed to enhance families’ capacities. Information is gathered through a process, which must include the family’s description of their priorities, concerns, and resources related to enhancing their child’s development, as well as their overall well-being. As part of the process, each county must utilize a department-approved FDA tool to gather required information.

DODD developed the FDA rubric to determine whether submitted tools will allow assessment teams to collect all information needed to complete the assessment process, including meeting the federal requirements. Items on the rubric are rated as “Yes” (worth 5 points) or “No” (worth 0 points) to indicate whether each requirement was met. In order to be considered acceptable for use, each tool must score at least 65 points out of a possible 90 points, and must meet each of the federally required components (notated with an asterisk “*”).

If the score for a tool is less than 65 points or any of the federally required components are not met, DODD will provide feedback to the county and the county may revise and resubmit the tool for approval. All tools that are approved for use will be posted on the Ohio Early Intervention website and may be used by any local program. Local programs can also choose to utilize more than one approved tool.

Item #	Requirement <i>* Indicates a federal requirement</i>	Minimum Information Needed to Meet Requirement
1	*FDA is Voluntary.	N/A – Required but not part of scoring
2	*FDA is based on information obtained through an assessment tool and also through an interview with those family members who elect to participate in the assessment.	N/A – Required but not part of scoring
3	*FDA is conducted by qualified personnel.	N/A – Required but not part of scoring
4	*Assessment tool identifies routines/activities/settings that the family would like their child to be included in but are not able to do so yet.	Tool elicits information about the family’s routines and activities, including what they need and want to do as a family.
5	*Assessment tool includes questions to identify the family’s strengths and needs.	Tool includes questions to elicit family’s strengths and needs.
6	*Assessment tool includes questions to obtain information about formal resources and supports.	Tool elicits information about formal supports (e.g., childcare, private therapy, financial resources, medical home, other medical providers).

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7	*Assessment tool includes questions to obtain information about informal resources and supports.	Tool elicits information about informal supports (e.g., family members, friends, kinship, social groups).
8	*Assessment tool includes questions to obtain information regarding family's priorities.	Tool contains questions that elicit priorities.
9	*Assessment tool includes questions to obtain information regarding family's concerns.	Tool contains questions that elicit concerns about the family's well-being.
10	*Assessment tool includes questions to obtain information regarding "potential" services/strategies necessary to enhance the family's capacity to meet the developmental needs of their infant or toddler.	Tool contains information about strategies parents have tried or are using to address quality of family life and/or enhance their child's development.
11	*Assessment tool identifies relevant cultural and linguistic characteristics of the family in order to better understand the family's priorities, resources, strengths, and areas of concern.	Tool elicits details regarding Events/Activities/Beliefs important to the family.
12	Assessment tool captures information about household members (family structure).	Tool captures information about family members.
13	Assessment tool captures information on what is working and what is challenging in the home and community.	Tool captures information about strategies that the family is trying/has tried to improve quality of family life.
14	Assessment tool captures family interests.	Tool captures information about family interests.
15	Assessment tool captures information on various daily routines/strengths and challenges within each routine.	Tool elicits information on daily routines.
16	Assessment tool identifies the most important people in the family's life and why they are important to the family.	Tool captures information on the important people in the family's lives.
17	Assessment tool captures financial resources (WIC, Food Stamps, Medicaid, Private Insurance, Employment, Social Security, BCMH, etc.)	Tool captures detailed information on financial resources (WIC, Food Stamps, Medicaid, Private Insurance, Employment, Social Security, BCMH, etc.)

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18	Assessment tool includes information about crisis planning.	Tool elicits information on the family's plans when there is a possible crisis.
19	Assessment tool asks reflective questions as well as stimulates conversation or raises awareness (yes or no) questions.	Tool goes beyond awareness questions and includes analysis, alternative, and action questions.
20	Assessment tool captures information on the health and welfare of the caregiver(s), including potential medical conditions, upcoming surgeries, involvement with mental health services, etc.	Tool captures details regarding the overall health of the child's primary caregivers/parents (e.g., current/ongoing concerns, past procedures/concerns, planned procedures, upcoming appointments).
21	Assessment tool captures information about how the family is or is not able to be involved in the community.	Tool captures information about the family's involvement in the community (e.g., group affiliations, team sports involvement, spiritual groups, academic groups, etc.) Tool captures information about barriers to family's access to the community.