

EITP

EARLY INTERVENTION
TRAINING PROGRAM

What is Early Intervention?

The Illinois Department of Human Services Bureau of Early Intervention serves infants and toddlers from birth to 36 months with developmental delays or disabilities or who are at risk for developmental delays and their families.

You Are Important!

- ✓ You are your child's most important teacher and caregiver.
- ✓ You know your child better than anyone else. Share your child's likes and dislikes with your EI team (toys, friends, games, songs).
- ✓ Provide opportunities for your child to play and practice new skills during routines such as mealtimes, diaper changes, and dressing.
- ✓ During home visits take an active role and ask your EI provider questions about the activities.
- ✓ Ask for help to identify supports for your family.



The EI Team

Developmental Therapy (DT)

Provides support for a child's development across all developmental domains.

Occupational Therapy (OT)

Provides support and promotes the development of infants and toddlers in everyday routines. OT also targets sensory integration needs as well as fine motor development.

Physical Therapy (PT)

Provides support for a child's positioning, movement and coordination to facilitate participation in family and community life.

Service Coordination (SC)

Provides organization for the EI team and focuses on ensuring the family's needs are being met.

Speech and Language Pathology (SLP)

Provides support for a child's language, communication, and oral-motor development.

Other team members may include social workers, audiologists, behavior specialists, mental health professionals, nurses, nutritionists/dieticians, psychologists, and others.





An Early Intervention Visit

An EI Visit

- ✓ You and your family are active participants in EI visits.
- ✓ **Support** - You and your provider will work with your child to increase participation in everyday activities. Your provider may watch you with your child and give you new ideas and show you ways to support your child's participation.
- ✓ **Coaching and Learning** - With your desired outcomes in mind, the provider serves as a coach showing you strategies to work with your child and help your child learn. You can practice these strategies with their support and ask questions to ensure you are using the strategies correctly.
- ✓ **Focus and Follow-up** - Your provider may ask what changes you've seen in your child and how things have been going since your last visit.
 - Review notes from your last meeting and consider new information about your child and family that the provider may need to know.
 - You and the provider will come up with a focus for the visit at the beginning of the session together.
- ✓ **Questions** - Feel free to ask questions about how and why these strategies were chosen and how you can use them in daily activities.

Wrapping up the Visit

- ✓ The provider may suggest services and supports that your family might find helpful.
- ✓ Your provider can also help you plan ways to use what you have learned during the visit as part of daily life with your child.

Where to Get More Information



Early Intervention Clearinghouse eiclearinghouse.org

A library of videos, books, manuals, and journals related to the development of young children with special needs and their families. This free resource ships materials directly to families. The web site links to other resources in the state and nationwide.



Illinois Early Learning Project illinoisearlylearning.org

This project delivers information about learning and development guidelines in Illinois as well as resources for staff and parents on a variety of early childhood topics.



eXtension Parenting www.extension.org/parenting

This program provides reliable parenting information and strategies for children birth through age five. Check out their Just in Time Parenting e-Newsletters which are specific to your child's age and needs.