

[Click here to see this online](#)



Fall 2020 Newsletter



Early Intervention Training Program Newsletter, Fall 2020

News and Updates

Lead Poisoning Diagnosis Added to EI Medical Conditions List

IDHS provides a list of medical conditions that result in a high probability of developmental delay and therefore are "Eligible EI Diagnoses." This list also includes information related to whether or not the medical condition is an eligible diagnosis for the [Division of Specialized Care for Children \(DSCC\)](#).

In August 2020, the list [Early Intervention Medical Conditions Resulting in High Probability of Developmental Delay and DSCC Screening Information](#) was updated to **now include a Lead Poisoning diagnosis of elevated blood lead levels of 5 micrograms per deciliter.**



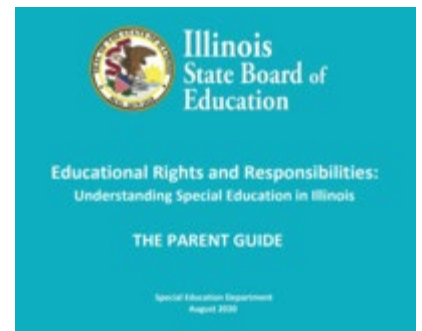
It is officially within the [89 Illinois Administrative Code, Part 500](#). For more information on eligibility please visit the [EITP Evaluation/Assessment and Eligibility](#) page.

Revised Parent Guide

The parent guide, [Educational Rights and Responsibilities: Understanding Special Education in Illinois](#), has been revised by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Special Education Department to incorporate the changes in regulation and law that have occurred since its original release in 2009.

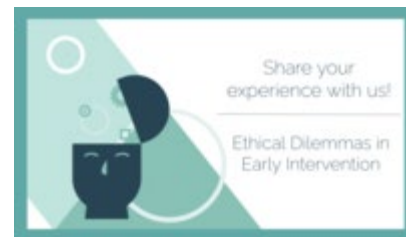
This resource is helpful for families as they transition to Part B services!

The guide helps parents and others learn about the educational rights of children who have disabilities and receive special education services. It is available in PDF format in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).



Ethics and Early Intervention

Dr. Catherine Corr and Ms. Susan Connor are conducting a study to examine ethical dilemmas early interventionists in Illinois face in their work with children with disabilities/delays and their families. We invite you to share your experience with us by completing this survey.



Click to take the survey

 [Share your thoughts with us!](#) We appreciate your time and thank you!

Resources You Can Use

Resources for Resuming In-Person Visits

IDHS recently released the [Revised Early Intervention \(EI\) Plan for Resuming In-Person \(Face-to-Face\) in Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan on 09/17/20](#) (pdf) along with a [summary of the updates](#) (pdf).



Newly developed resources related to the "Resuming In-Person" phase include the following:

- [Re-Entry and Safety Resources during COVID-19](#) - a new EITP website with curated resources for those returning to the workplace and EI home visits!
- [Having Safe In-Person Early Intervention Visits](#) (from EI Clearinghouse)
- [Keep Yourself and Others Safe from COVID When Returning to Work](#) (pdf)
- [Re-Entry Reminders Infographic](#) (pdf)
- [In-Person Early Intervention Checklists during COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (pdf)
- Early Intervention Plan for Resuming In-Person Services: [Q & A Information Session Section 1](#)
- Early Intervention Plan for Resuming In-Person Services: [Q & A Information Session Section 2](#)

For additional resources related to COVID-19, visit our [COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) Information and Resources](#) page or our [Live Video Visits \(Telehealth\) Resources](#) page.

Family Outcomes Survey Infographic

EITP recently developed a new infographic to help explain the importance of the Family Outcomes Survey. The infographic also highlights updates to survey delivery and explains your role in the survey process.

Download the [Family Outcomes Survey infographic](#) (pdf) to learn more!

You may also be interested in viewing a copy of the [Family Outcomes Survey](#) (pdf), which includes the exact questions asked to help measure EI outcomes for children and families.



ILAIMH Reflective Practice Groups

Illinois Association for Infant Mental Health ([ILAIMH](#)) offers [Reflective Practice](#)

Groups (RPGs) throughout the state of Illinois to provide reflective practice opportunities for multidisciplinary professionals working with infants, young children and their families.

RPGs allow early interventionists to strengthen reflective skills and build a deeper understanding of early childhood mental health. Participants meet for a series of 10 monthly two-hour sessions and are able to acquire up to 12 hours of reflective supervision hours that can be applied to the ILAIMH Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health credential application process and EI credential hours.

[View the ILAIMH RPG flyer \(pdf\)](#) for more details, such as cost, dates and application process.

Working with Millennial Parents

Family-centered practices include "*Being Respectful and Responsive to Linguistic and Cultural Needs (Cultural Competence)*", but have you ever considered age as a part of the culture?

11 Things a Millennial Parent Wished a Generation-X EI Provider Knew

written by [Tier-ra Henry, BSW, CFCS-HDFS](#) shares the millennial parents' viewpoint and tips for EI providers and Service Coordinators. As Tier-ra states,

"Understanding the 'why' behind some of the cultural variances is the foundation to building great, impactful relationships."



Strengthen Reflective Skills and Build Understanding of Early Childhood Mental Health with...

ILAIMH Reflective Practice Groups

REFLECTIVE PRACTICE GROUPS provide REFLECTIVE EXPERIENCES to groups of multidisciplinary professionals whose work touches the lives of infants, young children and their families.

In the context of a safe and supportive community of practice, you can:

- Increase understanding of reflective practice through reflection on your own work and observing others reflect on their work.
- Develop self-knowledge, understanding, and awareness of your impact on others (children, families, colleagues).
- Deepen understanding of the complexities that impact children's emotional well-being and development - early relationships, culture & identity, family & community systems, physical & neurological factors, trauma & support.
- Increase understanding of the IECMH field, the IMH relational stance, and gain multiple perspectives.

We support...

- 2 Educators and Therapists
- 2-3 Service Providers and Support Personnel
- 1-2 Early Childhood and Health Professionals
- Program Administrators, Supervisors, and Outreach Center Directors
- IECMH Consultants and Clinicians
- Infant/Early Childhood Specialists

From these settings...

- Outpatient/ICMHC
- Outpatient Programs
- Home Visiting
- Early Intervention
- Child Welfare
- Early Childhood
- Health Care

Bring these experiences and shared stories, IMH offer a source of professional support, reflection, and anchoring for participants.

FEES & INFORMATION

SEE: \$1000 for 10 reflective practice group sessions
 DATES: Monthly (October 2020 through Summer 2021)
 APPLICATION DEADLINE: September 30, 2020

LOCATION: Two (2) sites - please see planlet - Tuesday morning and Thursday early afternoon

PREREQUISITES: Graduate-level MSW, MSW or IECMH or public health (PHD) (ICMHC) or equivalent per group
 (See page 1 for eligibility requirements, EI-Credits, Reflective Supervision Hours towards IECMH Credential)

Sign up for the ILAIMH Reflective Practice Groups and get more support for your work as a direct practitioner, supervisor/consultant, or administrator.

TO APPLY: <https://ilaimh.org/apply/reflective-practice-groups-application>

QUESTIONS: ilaimh@illinois.edu

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF
 Infant Mental Health

Service Coordinator Corner

The role of the Service Coordinator is critical in EI. There are many Illinois and national initiatives underway. Here are updates and resources related to your work:

Illinois Service Coordination Initiatives

- **Statewide and Regional Activities** - EITP continues to participate in monthly Regional CFC Support Meetings to collaborate on interests, priorities, and needs of service coordinators, providers, and families within each region. Examples of regional activities that have emerged from these meetings include provider meetings across some regions and joint development and sharing of resources/tools.
- **IL SC Stakeholder Summary Report** - In 2019 a survey was conducted to better understand the knowledge and skills stakeholders in Illinois felt were necessary for service coordinators to possess. Information was also gathered to learn about service coordinator professional growth and satisfaction and this summary includes the findings and trends identified.
- **IL SC Forum** - Special thanks to Megan Mack, Alanda Lockhart, Lovice Brinkman for co-leading an interactive discussion during our August 2020 meeting. Service coordinators, and those who prepare/support them at the local level, are welcome to [join our community](#).

National SC Initiatives

- **Knowledge & Skills for Service Coordinators (KSSC)** have officially been taken out of “DRAFT Recommendations” and are finalized! Over 1000 respondents from 42 states responded to the nationwide survey and most are in agreement with the KSSC. In fact, 89% of service coordinators, administrators and other stakeholders who responded to the survey found them to be comprehensive and complete. To learn more about the nationwide survey findings and how the information was used to finalize the KSSC please see the [RKSSC Nationwide Survey Highlights & Response to Suggestions](#).
- **Division for Early Childhood (DEC) and Infant Toddler Coordinator Association (ITCA) Joint Service Coordination Position Statement** is anticipated to be finalized in September 2020 and released shortly thereafter with the KSSC embedded in the position statement. To stay connected and informed on new and existing service coordination initiatives, including future web-conversations to discuss the Joint SC Position Statement and KSSC, be sure to join the [DEC SC Community of Practice!](#)

Join the Conversation!

Register for the [Illinois Service Coordinator \(IL SC\) Forum](#) to join our next meeting on Wednesday, November 18th, 2020 from 10-11am (central)! Current SCs in Illinois, and those who prepare them, can visit the [online workspace](#) or [contact Sarah Nichols](#) to learn more about this community.

State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) Update

Throughout these uncertain times, we continue to hear about positive changes occurring in our pilot areas. The focus continues to be on family engagement, and the pandemic has presented increased opportunities for coaching and family togetherness at a level not often experienced before. The support being provided by the leadership teams has been critical as stakeholders navigate uncharted territory. Teams have been offering support opportunities via technology to their provider communities to ensure that they have accurate information and know where to turn for answers.



We have continued to refine a practice fidelity tool with our national technical assistance partners. We are still awaiting the Office of Special Education Program’s feedback on the plan we submitted in April. We have contributed to public comment on the proposed reporting requirement changes for the SSIP and are waiting to see how that influences what the final requirements will be. We will be reconvening our large stakeholder group when we know more. We continue to benefit from stakeholder input so if you have any comments, please [email Chelsea Guillen](#).

Upcoming Events

In line with University and IDHS Early Intervention guidelines regarding COVID-19, [EITP will not be hosting face-to-face events until further notice](#). EITP is continually monitoring the guidance, is preparing for an eventual return to some in-person opportunities, and will keep registrants updated as new information becomes available.



- To view online trainings sponsored by EITP, please visit [EITP Online Events page](#).
- To learn more about videos approved for EI credit, please visit our [Video Credit Requests page](#).
- To view upcoming events that are eligible for EI credit from other entities (non-EITP events), please visit the [Non-EITP Events Calendar](#).

Date	Event and Registration Link	Location
9/28/20	Virtual Online System Overview One Day Follow-Up	Online - Zoom
9/29/20	 Let's Work Together: Building Relationships with Families to Support Positive Behavior	Online - MFLN
10/2/20	2020 Illinois Development Therapy Association (IDTA) Conference	Online - Zoom
10/6/20	New to EI Forum - A monthly online meeting with the EI partners for new providers in their initial 18 months in Early Intervention	Online - Zoom
10/15/20	Virtual Online System Overview One Day Follow-Up	Online - Zoom
10/19/20	Virtual Online System Overview One Day Follow-Up	Online - Zoom
10/29/20	Virtual Online System Overview One Day Follow-Up	Online - Zoom
11/3/20	New to EI Forum - A monthly online meeting with the EI partners for new providers in their initial 18 months in Early Intervention	Online - Zoom
11/5/20	Virtual Hawaii Early Learning Profile (HELP) Overview	Online - Zoom
11/12/20	Virtual Online System Overview One Day Follow-Up	Online - Zoom
11/13 & 11/14/20	The PLAY Project's 2-Day Intensive Workshop (both days required)	Online - Zoom
11/17 & 11/19/20	An Introduction to the DIR®-FCD Model: Growing Development Through Relationships (both days required)	Online - Zoom
11/23/20	Virtual Online System Overview One Day Follow-Up	Online - Zoom
12/1/20	New to EI Forum - A monthly online meeting with the EI partners for new providers in their initial 18 months in Early Intervention	Online - Zoom
12/1/20	 Make New Friends: Promoting Friendship and Belonging	Online - MFLN
12/3/20	Transition from Early Intervention to Early Childhood Services: Roles and Responsibilities- Webinar (Formerly the Building Bridges Training)	Online - StarNet

12/4/20	Virtual Online System Overview One Day Follow-Up	Online - Zoom
12/7/20	The World of Poverty	Online - Zoom



indicates events that are approved by [Gateways](#) (the Illinois professional development system for child care professionals).

*For all multiple day events, participants must register before Day 1 and attend all days. Registration will be closed after Day 1 of that event. To register for the event, click on the full title of the event.

READ MORE ABOUT



Central Billing Office | Monitoring | EI Central Directory

EITP is housed within the **Department of Special Education** at the **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** and funded through the **Illinois Department of Human Services**. Please review [UI Web Privacy Notice](#).

Disclaimer

The information provided in this Announcement is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. The opinions, resources, and links provided in the Announcement are intended for information purposes only and are not intended to take the place of medical or legal advice, or of other appropriate services. The content of the EITP Announcement does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Illinois Early Intervention Training Program, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, or the Illinois Department of Human Services; nor does the mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the Illinois Early Intervention Training Program, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, or the Illinois Department of Human Services.

[Subscribe](#) [Unsubscribe](#)