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2013 Winter Newsletter

EITP Updates

The EI Training Program (EITP) at the University of Illinois has been working on a number of transitions this fiscal year. The most recent transition involves a change in the learning management system that is used to deliver online trainings sponsored by the EITP. The new system is called Moodle and it will require all online training participants to have a Moodle account.

There have been a number of News postings developed and distributed by the EITP to help with this transition over the last several weeks, all of which can be found on the EITP website under the [News](#) postings linked to the home page. In addition, an [Online Training FAQ](#) page includes a number of updates to support online learners through this transition and as they navigate online trainings in the new Moodle system.

Please note that certificates of completion from the Adobe learning management system can no longer be accessed. If you do not have a copy of your certificate of completion and need one for credentialing you may [request a duplicate certificate](#) for a processing fee of \$10.

The following EITP sponsored online training **are currently open** for registration:

- Early Intervention Monitoring – What's It All About?
- Family Assessment in the Early Intervention System
- Impact of EI on Families – Family Outcome Survey
- Natural Environments & Developmental Justification of Need
- Parent Liaison Training
- Service Coordination Training
- Serving Families of Children with Vision or Dual Sensory Loss
- Serving Families of Children with Hearing Loss

EITP sponsored online training events that **will soon re-open** include:

- Foundations of Speech Development in Young Children
- It Matters! How Culture Impacts our Work with Families
- Coordinating Care Between EI and the Primary Care Medical Home: A Statewide Training
- Coordinating Care Between EI and the Primary Care Medical Home: National Module
- Completing the Fax Back Referral Form
- The Standardized Referral form.

To register for one of these trainings please visit the EITP website at www.illinoiseittraining.org.

EITP Receives a University Public Engagement Award

The Early Intervention Training Program was recently awarded a Public Engagement Grant from the University of Illinois in the amount of

\$9,500. With this award, EITP will develop two public awareness and training videos focused on “**Early Intervention Services: What do they Look Like**” and “**Early Intervention in Childcare Settings**” and disseminate them to help families, childcare workers and early intervention providers support the development and learning of infants and toddlers with disabilities in Illinois.



The Early Intervention Strategies for Success Blog

This blog was developed to provide early intervention (EI) practitioners with an interactive place to share and learn practical strategies that they can use in their work with infants, toddlers, families, other caregivers, and colleagues. Through work with Virginia’s [Integrated Training Collaborative](#) and the [Partnership for People with Disabilities](#) at Virginia Commonwealth University, the Early Intervention Strategies for Success Blog has found that practitioners are eager for very practical, real world information that links best practice with actual practice. This blog is designed to be a place to share knowledge and experience and learn useful tips and strategies!

This blog contains information about:

- Engaging Families
- Intervention Visits
- EI Research to Practice Beliefs
- IFSP Development
- Local EI system Management
- Practical Strategies
- Professional Development
- Service Coordination
- Teamwork

Holidays: Strategies for Success

While the holiday season is filled with enjoyable activities, events and traditions, it can also be a hectic and stressful time. Travel, shopping, loud music, bright lights, unfamiliar food, and busy schedules can turn typical routines upside down! The disruption to routine can be particularly difficult for children who depend on routine and predictability to engage in appropriate behavior. The following tips will help ensure that the holiday season is enjoyable for you and your child. **Click on the image for more information!**



Preparing Culturally Responsive Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education Personnel

The Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) program in the Department of Special Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has been awarded a federal grant (PCRP Project) to fund students interested in earning a **master's degree**, with an emphasis on working with young children, ages birth to six, with disabilities and their families. The focus of this master's degree program is to prepare personnel who have expertise in young children's social-emotional development as a foundation for providing culturally responsive and evidence-based services. This is a 2-year full-time master's program on the Champaign-Urbana campus. If accepted into the program, funding consists of a traineeship stipend, a tuition waiver, and waiver of some fees. Funding is limited and awarded on a competitive basis. Attached to this funding is a **service obligation** to be fulfilled after completion of the degree: two years of service in a professional setting that benefits young children with disabilities for every one-year of funding accepted. This service obligation can be met through employment in the ECSE field anywhere in the continental United States.

- Deadline for receipt of admission applications **April 1, 2014** for enrollment beginning Summer or Fall 2014
- [Click here for more information](#) or Contact Dr. Mary-alayne Hughes, Project Director, at mahughes@illinois.edu.

Reputable Resources



More than Baby Talk!

Click on the image to access to a guide about infant toddler language development. "This guide describes 10 practices that early childhood educators can use to support the development of language and communication skills of infants and toddlers. Because research supports the importance of adult-child interactions for infants and toddlers, the practices are designed to be done one-on-one or in small groups. Each practice draws upon the types of interactions that research suggests promotes language and communication skills. Each practice is presented with a description of the practice, research evidence that supports the use of the practice, and examples of how educators may use the practice with infants and toddlers. Although each practice is presented separately, many of the practices can be used in combination with each other."



Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Development

Click on the image for resources from the Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention for Young Children (TACSEI). TACSEI has recently added multiple new handouts to the [Backpack Connections Series](#) to help teachers and parents/caregivers work together to enhance young children's social emotional skills and reduce challenging behavior. New handouts have been added in the following categories: [Emotions](#), [Routines and Schedules](#), and [Addressing Behavior](#). Backpack Connection handouts can be sent home when a new strategy or skill is introduced in the classroom to inform parents about what their child is learning at school and to provide specific ideas on how to use the strategy or skill at home."



The *Youngest Americans*: A statistical Portrait of Infants and Toddlers in the United States

Click on the image for a report that "provides a comprehensive indicators-based portrait of the 12 million infants and toddlers in America. It includes basic demographical data on these young children, including information about their health and well-being, and the well-being of their parents. Some key findings show that: many infants and toddlers in America today are starting out with severe economic hardship; there are considerable inequities marked by income and race/ethnicity and these inequities are often compounded by fragile family situations; the majority of mothers of infants and toddlers are working; parental leave, high-quality child care, and access to early intervention services are out of reach for many families raising infants and toddlers."

Upcoming Conferences

- [Opening Minds in Chicago, Illinois, January 29-February 1, 2014.](#)
- Early Childhood Today: Play, Learn and Grow Together for a Successful Tomorrow in Romeoville, Illinois, March 5, 2014.
- 8th Annual Empowering Professionals Conference: Practical Insights into Effective Intervention in Chicago, Illinois, March 7, 2014.
- [National Training Institute on Effective Practice in St. Petersburg, Florida, April 23-25, 2014.](#)
- [Head to Toe: The Midwest Interactive Infant-Toddler Conference, Spring 2014.](#)

Upcoming Training Opportunities

1/4/2014	Music Together Skills and Songs Workshop Winter 2014	Joan's Studio, Chicago
1/7/2014	Early Intervention in Natural Environments - What It Means for You and the Families You Support 	Lutheran Social Services Building, West Peoria
1/8/2014	"Understanding Autism: An Overview for Parents & Professional"	King Community Service Center, Chicago
1/9/2014	Online Systems Overview One Day Follow Up Session 	I Hotel and Conference Center, Champaign
1/9/2014	Helping Families Advocate for their Child in Early Intervention	Lake County Health Department, Waukegan
1/10/2014	Making the Connection...Using Sign Language with Infants and Toddlers	Anderson Wellness Center, Maryville
1/13/2014 - 1/15/2014	System Overview for Bilingual Interpreters and Translators in the Illinois Early Intervention System 	Prairie State College Business & Community Education Center, Chicago Heights
1/14/2014 - 1/15/2014	Structured Teaching	Little Friends Center for Autism, Naperville
1/17/2014	Effective Sensory Diets	Holiday Inn Airport, St. Louis
1/17/2014	Executive Functioning	Elgin Community College at BCC, Elgin
1/22/2014	"Understanding Autism: An Overview for Parents & Professional"	Garfield Community Service Center, Chicago
1/23/2014 - 1/24/2014	PECS Level 1 Basic Training	Transitions School, Quincy
1/23/2014	Baby Sleep & Development	Smart Love Preschool, Chicago
1/24/2014	Online Systems Overview One Day Follow Up Session 	University of IL Extension Office, Collinsville
1/24/2014 - 1/25/2014	Pediatric Gait Course: Multiple Intervention Strategies	Easter Seals DuPage and the Fox Valley Region, Villa Park
1/25/2014	How Sensory & Communication Effect a Child's Life	Little Friends Center for Autism, Naperville
1/29/2014	Battelle Developmental Inventory - 2nd Revision 	Sangamon County Dept. of Public Health, Springfield
1/29/2014	Mental Health Services in the Early Intervention System	DayOneNetwork, Geneva
1/31/2014	Autism Spectrum Disorder: Early Signs, Symptoms, and Treatment Strategies & A Parent's Perspective	Little Friends Center for Autism, Naperville



Early Intervention Training Program at the University of Illinois

51 Gerty Drive, Room 61 Champaign, IL 61820

Toll Free 866-509-3867 [CLICK HERE TO UNSUBSCRIBE](#)

