

9 Key Definitions in Early Intervention



In this session, you'll learn how the Part C regulations define these 9 terms:



Infant or toddler with a disability

Developmental delay

Early intervention services

Prior written notice

Native language

Consent

Multidisciplinary

Natural environments

Service coordination services

Infant or Toddler with a Disability

Infant or toddler with a disability means an individual under 3 years of age who needs EI services because—

- the child is experiencing a **developmental delay...** in one or more developmental area:

- Cognitive development
- Physical development *
- Communication development
- Social or emotional development
- Adaptive development

* Including vision & hearing

Infant or Toddler with a Disability

OR—

The child has a **diagnosed physical or mental condition** that—

- has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay



Developmental Delay

Remember the 5 areas
in which infants &
toddlers can experience
a developmental delay?



Developmental Delay

Each State must:

- have a rigorous definition of *developmental delay*
- describe the evaluation & assessment procedures that will be used to measure a child's development in each area
- specify the level of delay in functioning* that constitutes a developmental delay

* or other comparable criteria

Together, these will be used by the State to identify infants & toddlers with developmental delays who are in need of EI

Early Intervention Services

- (a) **General.** *Early intervention services* means
- (1) Are provided under public supervision;
 - (2) Are selected in collaboration with the parent;
 - (3) Are provided at no cost, except, subject to § State law provides for a system of payments by family;
 - (4) Are designed to meet the developmental needs and the needs of the family to assist appropriately in identified by the IFSP Team, in any one or more of:
 - (i) Physical development;
 - (ii) Cognitive development;
 - (iii) Communication development;
 - (iv) Social or emotional development; or
 - (v) Adaptive development;
 - (5) Meet the standards of the State in which they are provided, including the requirements of part C of the Act;
 - (6) Include services identified under paragraph (b);
 - (7) Are provided by qualified personnel (as that term is defined in the types of personnel listed in paragraph (c) of this section);
 - (8) To the maximum extent appropriate, are provided in accordance with § 303.26 and consistent with §§ 303.126 and 303.303;
 - (9) Are provided in conformity with an IFSP adopted in accordance with section 600 of the Act and § 303.20.



in

Early Intervention Services means developmental services that—

1 | are provided under
public supervision

2 | are selected in
collaboration with
the parents

3 | are provided at no cost,
*except where Federal or State law
provides for a
system of payments
by families*

4 | are designed to meet the
developmental needs of an
infant or toddler with a
disability & the needs of the
family to assist appropriately in
the child's development

Early Intervention Services means developmental services that—

5 | meet the **standards** of the State in which the EI services are provided and Part C requirements

6 | include **services** identified under paragraph (b)*

** we'll get there!*

7 | are provided by **qualified personnel**

8 | are provided in **natural environments**, to the maximum extent appropriate

9 | are provided in conformity with the child's **IFSP**

Prior Written Notice

Prior written notice
must be provided to parents

A reasonable time before the
lead agency or an EIS provider
proposes to (or refuses to):

initiate **or** change

the infant or
toddler's

- identification
- evaluation
- placement

OR--

- the provision of
EI services to the
child or family

Prior Written Notice

Notice must be in enough detail to inform parents about—

- The action that's being proposed (or refused)
- The reasons for taking the action
- All procedural safeguards available under Part C



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Prior Written Notice



Written notice must be:

- written in language understandable to general public
- provided in native language of parent or other mode of communication used by parent*

* *Unless it is clearly not feasible to do so*

Native Language

Native language is described in 2 ways at §303.25

- For an individual → with limited English proficiency
- For an individual who:
 - is deaf|hard of hearing
 - is blind or visually impaired, or
 - has no written language

Native language is:

- the language normally used by the individual
- in the case of a child, the language normally used by the *parents* of the child
- during evaluations & assessments, the language normally used by the child*

* *if developmentally appropriate*



- For an individual who:
 - is deaf|hard of hearing
 - is blind or visually impaired, or
 - has no written language

Native Language

Native language
is the mode of
communication
normally used by
the individual

Consent

Parent has been fully informed* of the activity for which consent is being sought

** In parent's native language*

Consent form describes that activity & lists the **EI records** that will be released (if any) and to whom

Parent understands & agrees **in writing** to the activity

Parent understands that granting consent is **voluntary** & **may be revoked** at any time

Consent

Under Part C, the parent **must** give consent for—

- screening
- evaluation
- provision of services identified in IFSP

May the lead agency **challenge** a parent's refusal to give consent?



During evaluation of the child & assessments of the child & family

- *Multidisciplinary* may include 1 individual who is qualified in more than 1 discipline or profession

IFSP Team:

- Must include **parent** and **2 or more** individuals from separate disciplines or professions (*1 must be the service coordinator*)

Multidisciplinary

Multidisciplinary means the involvement of 2 or more separate disciplines or professions

Natural Environments

Natural environments mean settings that are natural or typical for a same-aged infant or toddler without a disability



May include the **home** or **community** settings

Natural Environments

Each system must have policies & procedures to ensure...

...that EI services for infants & toddlers with disabilities are provided

→ in natural environments*

** to the maximum extent appropriate*

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in settings other than the natural environment that are most appropriate**

*** as determined by the parent & the IFSP Team*

*** only when EI services cannot be achieved satisfactorily in a natural environment*

Service Coordination Services

Service coordination services
mean services provided by a
service coordinator

to assist and enable
an infant or toddler with a disability
(and the child's family)

to receive the services and rights
required under Part C, including
procedural safeguards





Roundup Time!