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 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 development services that—

1. Are provided under public supervision;
2. Are selected in collaboration with the parent(s);
3. Are provided at no cost, except, subject to §§ 303.520 and 303.521, where Federal or State law provides for a system of payments by families, including a schedule of sliding fees;
4. Are designed to meet the developmental needs of an infant or toddler with a disability and the needs of the family to assist appropriately in the infant’s or toddler’s development, as identified by the IFSP Team, in any one or more of the following areas, including—
   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 the early intervention services are provided, including the requirements of part C of the Act;
6. Include services identified under paragraph (b) of this section;
7. Are provided by qualified personnel (as that term is defined in § 303.31), including the types of personnel listed in paragraph (c) of this section;
8. To the maximum extent appropriate, are provided in natural environments, as defined in § 303.26 and consistent with §§ 303.126 and 303.344(d);
9. Are provided in conformity with an IFSP adopted in accordance with section 636 of the Act and § 303.20.
Early Intervention Services means developmental services that—

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
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Early Intervention Services means developmental services that—

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<td></td>
<td>* we’ll get there!</td>
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<td>are provided in <strong>natural environments</strong>, to the maximum extent appropriate</td>
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<td>are provided in conformity with the child’s <strong>IFSP</strong></td>
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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

OR--

- the provision of EI services to the child or family

- identification
- evaluation
- placement
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
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
Native Language

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

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

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Consent

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

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

* In parent’s native language

Parent understands & agrees in writing to the activity

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

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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 (I must be the service coordinator)
Natural Environments

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<th>Natural environments</th>
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<td>mean settings that are natural or typical for a same-aged infant or toddler without a disability</td>
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May include the home or community settings
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

&

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!