

Early Intervention Services Overview

Early intervention services are developmental services that:

- Are designed to meet the developmental needs of each child eligible under this part, and the needs of the family related to enhancing the child's development, as identified by the IFSP Team, in any one or more of the following areas:
 - Physical development,
 - Cognitive development,
 - Communication development,
 - Social or emotional development, and
 - Adaptive development.
- Selected in collaboration with the parents.
- Provided to a client:
 - Under public supervision,
 - By qualified personnel,
 - In conformity with an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), and
 - At no cost, unless, subject to a sliding fee schedule. (ITP does not have a sliding fee schedule)
- Meet the standards of the state, including the requirements of this part.

Early intervention services are available to all infants and toddlers with developmental delays/disabilities in the state and their families, including:

- Indian infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families residing on a reservation geographically located in the state.
- Infants and toddlers with disabilities who are homeless children and their families.
- Infants and toddlers with disabilities who are in foster care or wards of the State.

Early intervention services must be included in a child's IFSP. These services must be based on peer-reviewed research (to the extent practicable) that are necessary to meet the unique needs of the child and family to achieve the results of outcomes identified in the IFSP.

To the extent appropriate, the IFSP also must identify medical and other services that the child or family needs or is receiving through other sources, but that are neither required nor funded under Part C of IDEA.

Natural Environments

To the maximum extent appropriate to the needs of the child, early intervention services are provided in natural environments that infants and toddlers without disabilities would participate in, including the home and community settings.

Natural environments are settings that are natural or typical for a same-aged child without a disability, may include the home or community settings. Early intervention services should only be provided in settings other than the natural environment when the service cannot be achieved satisfactorily in a natural environment, as determined by the child's family and IFSP Team. IFSPs must include a statement that each early intervention service are provided in a natural environment for each child to the maximum extent appropriate, or a justification as to why a service will not be provided in the natural environment.