

Child Outcomes Measurement Process

In 2005, the U.S. Department of Education - Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) announced new reporting requirements to measure and report for Child and Family Outcomes. These new reporting requirements resulted from the passage of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) reauthorization of 2004.

The goal of early intervention and early childhood special education is to enable young children with disabilities to be active and successful participants during their early childhood years and in the future. States collect, analyze, and use data on three child outcomes to measure individual child and family progress toward improved results and to improve their systems and services.

Three specific Child Outcomes must be measured to report on the results of Idaho's early intervention service system:

- Gaining positive social emotional skills, including social relationships
This outcome measures how children interact and play with their family, other adults, and other children
- Learning and using new knowledge and skills
This outcome measures how children learn and use basic language and communication skills such as counting and problem-solving
- Use appropriate behaviors to meet their needs
This outcome measures how children gradually become more independent by learning how to move from place to place, feed themselves, and take care of basic needs

These three Child Outcomes are functional in nature and should be meaningful to the child in the context of everyday living. In addition, they are an integrated series of behaviors or skills that allow the child to achieve the Outcomes, which are not based on a single behavior or domain. Rather, they are based on the sum of a series of discrete behaviors.

Child Outcomes information must be collected at a child's entry and exit from the Infant Toddler Program and at each collection interval, a Child Outcomes Summary Form (COSF) must be completed. The table below outlines Idaho's Child Outcome Measurement Process.

Infant Toddler Program ECO Rating Process		
Family Communication	Entry ECO Ratings	Exit ECO Ratings
	<p><u>At a minimum, regions must:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provide and discuss the child outcomes with family/caregiver using one of the following communication resources: <i>ECO Family Flyer</i> OR <i>ECO Family Guide</i> 	<p><u>At a minimum, regions must:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use one of the following communication resources to prepare the family/caregiver for the exit ECO rating process: <i>ECO Family Flyer</i> OR <i>ECO Family Guide</i>

Infant Toddler Program ECO Rating Process

	<p>In addition, the Child Outcomes Step by Step video is available for families to access using the link in the ECO Family Flyer or the ITP Website.</p>	
<p>Information Gathering</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Entry ECO Ratings</p> <p><u>At a minimum, regions must:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Complete an approved ECO Anchor Assessment tool as defined in the ITP eManual <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <p><u>At a minimum, regions must:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Complete the following ECO information gathering tools to learn about the child's functioning across settings and situations: <i><u>For Premies and Infants</u></i> <i>Use the ECO Parent Questionnaire for Premies/Infants</i> <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i><u>For Older Infants and toddlers</u></i> <i>Use either the:</i> <i>ECO Guiding Questions</i> <i>OR</i> <i>ECO Parent Questionnaire for Toddlers</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Exit ECO Ratings</p> <p><u>At a minimum, regions must:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Complete an approved ECO Anchor Assessment tool as defined in the ITP eManual <p><small>*Circumstances such as loss of contact, unexpected family/caregiver move, etc. warrant a review of the child's file in place of an ECO Anchor Assessment.</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <p><u>At a minimum, regions must complete the following:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use the information gathered from the ECO Anchor Assessment with the family/caregiver to discuss the child's current level of functioning ➤ Review medical records ➤ Review IFSP outcomes ➤ Review of all evaluations/assessments

Infant Toddler Program ECO Rating Process

Determine Ratings	<p style="text-align: center;">Entry/Exit ECO Ratings</p> <p><u>At a minimum, regions must:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use one of the following ECO rating tools to ensure the 7-point scale is consistently and accurately used during the rating process with families: <i>ECO Decision Tree (with or without rating numbers)</i> OR <i>ECO Ratings and Definitions (with or without rating numbers)</i> OR <i>ECO Ratings and Definitions – Buckets (with or without rating numbers)</i> ➤ In addition, if an anchor assessment tool other than the MEISR is used to gather information for entry or exit ECO ratings, the ECO Crosswalk MUST be used to complete the age anchoring process. In this instance, regions must have a process to ensure that teams understand both the sequence and milestones in which children acquire skills and the age range in which they are acquired. <p>If the MEISR is used as an anchor assessment, it is not necessary to use the ECO Crosswalk. The MEISR provides a built-in opportunity for age anchoring and seeing the child's functioning in different settings.</p> <p>When desired, the <i>Child Outcomes Summary Worksheet</i> can be used as an optional tool to summarize/compile/organize information gathered from the ECO tools and anchor assessment.</p>
Documentation	<p style="text-align: center;">Entry/Exit ECO Ratings</p> <p>Regions must use the <i>Child Outcome Summary Form</i> to document the ECO ratings and attach in ITPKIDS.</p>
Required teaming processes to ensure objective and accurate ratings	<p style="text-align: center;">Entry ECO Ratings</p> <p>At a minimum, the evaluator, Service Coordinator and family/caregiver must be a part of the ECO determination team to complete the ECO Rating Process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Every effort must be made for evaluator to attend the ECO ratings meeting. In the rare instance where the evaluator is unable to attend, the PSP may attend on behalf of the evaluator. In this instance, the evaluator must staff the information with the PSP and Service Coordinator prior to the meeting with the family. <p style="text-align: center;">Exit ECO Ratings</p> <p>At a minimum, the Primary Service Provider, Service Coordinator and family/caregiver must be a part of the ECO determination team to complete the ECO Rating Process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Minimum involvement must include use of identified tools/resources to discuss the Early Childhood Outcomes meaning, importance, and process as well as the use of identified tools during family participation in the ratings process <p>Circumstances such as loss of contact, unexpected family/caregiver move, etc. warrant completion of the entry or exit ECO ratings without family involvement.</p>

Infant Toddler Program ECO Rating Process

<p>Timelines to complete Entry/Exit ECO Rating Process</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Entry ECO Ratings</p> <p>Regions are encouraged to identify a process to embed completion of the Entry ECO Ratings and Child Outcome Summary form into the development of the initial IFSP. If this is not feasible, the Entry Child Outcomes Ratings and Child Outcome Summary Form must be completed within forty-five (45) days of the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exit ECO Ratings</p> <p><u>Exit at age 3</u> At a minimum, completion of the Exit ECO Ratings Process including the Exit Anchor Assessment, determination of ECO Ratings, completion of the Child Outcome Summary form should be no later than the child's third (3rd) birthday.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Exit Outcome ratings and Child Outcomes Summary form should be recorded and uploaded in the data system no later than thirty (30) days after a child's exit from Part C or no later than thirty (30) days after the child's third (3rd) birthday, whichever comes first. <p><u>Exit prior to age 3</u> At a minimum, completion of the Exit ECO Ratings Process including the Exit Anchor Assessment if family/caregiver is accessible, determination of ECO Ratings, completion of the Child Outcome Summary form, including uploading in the data system, should be no later than the 30 days after a child's exit from Part C.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Note: prior to exiting a child, regions must have a process in place to ensure ECO ratings are completed and recorded in the data system and the COS form is uploaded into data system.
<p>Needs identified through the ECO process are integrated into IFSP outcomes</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Entry ECO Ratings</p> <p>If the ECO ratings process is done during completion of the IFSP, regions must ensure that needs identified in the ECO ratings process are integrated into IFSP outcomes.</p> <p>If the ECO ratings process is done after completion of the IFSP, regions must identify a process to assure that needs identified in the ECO ratings process are integrated into IFSP outcomes.</p>
<p>Additional considerations</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Entry ECO Ratings</p> <p>An entry ECO rating is not required for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Children who enter services after 2.6 year of age as they have no possibility of being served at least 6 months ○ For premature infants born before 36 weeks gestational age, the entry rating can be completed at or before the 6-month IFSP review. <p>If a child enters and it isn't clear how long he or she will be served, completion of the entry rating is required.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exit ECO Ratings</p> <p>When clinically appropriate, the team may decide to use a developmental screener addressing all areas of development as the Exit Anchor Assessment. Refer to the list of Infant Toddler Program ECO Anchor Assessment tools.</p>

Infant Toddler Program ECO Rating Process

Multiple Entry and Exits	Children who enter and exit the program more than one time require special consideration by the team. The team must consider each child's circumstances individually to determine if subsequent assessment and ratings are needed, or if the previous rating continues to reflect the child's current status. If the previous rating still reflects the child's current status, it can be used the next time the child enrolls. For example, if a child leaves services but returns again after several months, the child's previous exit rating may be used as his entry score if the team determines that it is still reflective of the child's current level of development compared to a typical year. If it is determined that the previous rating is no longer reflective, a new assessment and COSF rating must be provided.
Child Outcome Anchor Assessments	Please refer to the Infant Toddler Program ECO Anchor Assessment Tools list for approved list of tools to complete the Child Outcome Rating Scale.