

The UPDATE

News and Information for Massachusetts EI Providers July 2016



Important Dates...Mark your Calendar!

July 26, 2016; 10am—11am: Monthly DPH Webinar will be a Conference Call (888-714-6484; Passcode: 584387): BDI—2 Video Requirements

August 23, 2016: DPH Webinar cancelled

September 29, 2016; 9am—4pm: ICC Retreat; Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, Marlborough

ICC Meeting Schedule FY16/17

November 10, 2016

January 12, 2017

March 9, 2017

June 8, 2016



Resources & Trainings: [New Training: Parents & Infants Impacted by Addiction](#)



Welcome New Program Director

Laura Farley has been appointed as KDC's Early Intervention Director for their New Bedford program. She assumed her new role on July 1 and came to the position with over 15 years of experience working in the human service field. Laura has been working as the Assistant to the Director for the past year and a half. Prior to working in Early Intervention, Laura was a preschool teacher at Way to Grow Day Care and as a Program Specialist at KinderCare Childcare Center. She is a graduate of Bridgewater State College with a Bachelor's degree in Special Education and Communication Disorders. Laura brings lots of enthusiasm and energy to the program and is looking forward to continuing to support our KDC families as they navigate the Early Intervention system. Please join us in welcoming Laura to her new role!

[DPH Updates](#)

BDI—2 Scoring Booklets

The Department will be ordering BDI—2 Scoring Booklets for programs in July. Programs should expect to receive a shipment for the entire year.

New Training: Parents and Infants Impacted by Addiction

Note from Amy Sommer, LICSW: I am truly thrilled to announce that the Infant Parent Training Institute here at JF&CS is supporting me in offering a 16-hour (8 session) intensive seminar for professionals interested in deepening their practice when working with parents with substance use disorders. The class will accept up to 12 enrollees and will be offered in Waltham beginning in September 2016 ([schedule](#)). I am also thrilled to announce that there is some scholarship funding available for those who would like to take the course and need a reduced fee. As with any new course offering, I am eager to reach new audiences and to ensure that we have enough enrollment to make the class work. I would be very grateful to you if you would consider forwarding or sharing the attached [flyer](#) to networks that you are a part of. We hope professionals from Early Intervention, various inpatient and outpatient medical and addiction practices, mental health and counseling fields and maternal health/perinatal practice will apply. As the flyer points out, all enrollment questions and procedures are handled by our Director of Training, Kathy Mills.

Smoke-Free Families Online Training

The Institute for Health & Recovery (IHR) is pleased to announce that the free, Smoke-Free Families online training, has been approved for EI Competency 6.3. The link for this training is www.healthrecovery.org/trainings/sff/. Free supports for people who want to quit smoking can be accessed at the following phone numbers and/or websites. English: 1-800 Quitnow (1-800-784-8669); Spanish: 1-855-Dejelo-Ya (which means, "Quit it now") (1-855-335-3569). Asian Smoker's Quitline can be accessed through www.asiansmokersquitline.org and offers free nationwide telephone assistance for Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese speakers who want to quit smoking. IHR can also provide an on-site training and on-site or phone consultation free of charge on this and other topics. Please contact Karen Gould at karen-gould@healthrecovery.org or Karen Welling at karenwelling@healthrecovery.org.

Data Manager Updates

FY2016 Error Reports

There will be two more fiscal year 2016 Error Reports given to providers with the last one to occur at the end of August. Providers should be especially mindful of errors that have re-occurred for two or more months, on any of the reports. For these cases please contact Jean Shimer at (617) 624-5526 for additional guidance on how to resolve the issue.



FY2016 Annual Report and Self-Assessment

The FY2016 Annual Report and Self-Assessment will be sent to EI providers via Interchange by the end of this week. Instructions for this Access application and instructions for using Interchange will be included. The Instructions will highlight any changes from last year, so please be sure to review these before proceeding with any data review or entry. The deadline for EI providers to send their completed Annual Reports to their Regional Specialists is Friday, September 9, 2016.

Specialty Services Updates

Save the Date: Children's Vision Massachusetts Coalition Summit 2016

The purpose of this [Summit](#) is to raise awareness regarding the critical role vision plays in child wellness and education; highlight successful programs and partnerships that improve vision health outcomes for children; and recognize individuals and organizations, who, embracing the important relationship between vision, child development and education, create opportunities for children by improving their ability to see. Speakers include experts in early education, ophthalmology and optometry.

NCHAM Hosting Webinar: Risk Monitoring for Delayed-onset Hearing Loss

On Thursday, July 21st, NCHAM will be hosting the webinar "Risk Monitoring for delayed-onset hearing loss in young children" presented by Jessica Stich-Hennen.

Since the 1970s, Joint Committee on Infant Hearing (JCIH) has recommended audiological monitoring for newborns and young children identified with risk indicators for delayed-onset hearing loss. JCIH 2007 position statement provided guidance on which risk indicators to monitor and which risk indicators should be monitored more frequently. The statement recommended "audiological assessment at least once by 24-30 months of age." Unfortunately, the 2007 JCIH position statement did not provide detailed protocols on how long to monitor, how frequent to monitor and when to discharge children from risk monitoring. As a result, there are inconsistencies in risk monitoring programs from state to state, clinic to clinic, and even audiologist to audiologist.

In Idaho, approximately 50% of infants identified with hearing loss present with risk indicators. At least half of infants with risk indicators and diagnosed hearing loss had more than one risk indicator identified.

This webinar provides current information regarding Idaho's "best practice" protocol for monitoring risk indicators in newborns and young children. The pros and cons of the current risk monitoring protocol will be addressed. It will describe Idaho's classification system for risk monitoring and address risk monitoring data collection procedures in Idaho. Data will be presented on the incidence and prevalence of risk indicators and diagnosed hearing loss in Idaho.

Overall, the presentation describes risk indicators for delayed-onset hearing loss, provides guidance for establishing audiology protocols for risk monitoring and provides guidance for tracking risk indicators at a state level.

Dr. Jessica Stich-Hennen received her Clinical Doctorate in Audiology (Au.D.) from the Idaho State University. In April 2011, she achieved Specialty Certification in Pediatrics from American Board of Audiology. Dr. Stich-Hennen's clinical specialty areas include pediatrics diagnostics and amplification, auditory evoked potentials and auditory processing disorders. She is the primary audiologist for the Idaho Cleft Palate-Craniofacial team.

Register now to learn more about this important topic!

When: Thursday, July 21st at 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm EST

Where: Adobe Connect Register www.infanthearing.org/resources_home/events/risk-monitoring.html

Live captioning will also be provided; a link will be available for captioning upon logging into the webinar.

If you have questions about this webinar, please contact Mandy McClellan mandy.mcclellan@usu.edu.

Massachusetts Act Early Team Awarded Grant from Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs (AMCHP)

The "Learn the Signs. Act Early." (LTSAE) program provides educational information to parents, health care professionals and early care and education providers about the importance of early identification and intervention for children with signs of autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities (ASD/DD).

Act Early State Systems grants are awarded on a competitive basis to state teams to strengthen their state and community systems for early identification and improve coordination of early intervention services for children with signs of ASD/DD. The State Systems grants are for a two-year period and are designed to increase parent-engaged developmental monitoring by promoting the adoption and integration of LTSAE materials and training resources into programs and statewide systems that serve young children and their families.

A brief description of the Massachusetts' two year project is described below:

Goals: To develop and broadcast a coordinated series of seven cable access television shows and three radio programs to be promoted, aired, and archived on multiple online platforms that will educate families from both mainstream and diverse cultures across the state and region about healthy developmental milestones and what to do about red flags for concerns in young children, with a particular focus on families from racially, culturally, economically and regionally diverse communities.

Year one of the grant will focus on development, review and evaluation of culturally competent content for radio and tv shows; recruitment of cable and radio stations, show hosts and panelists; training and rehearsing. Year two will focus on the actual taping of shows and dissemination to families across the state through online downloads and mailings. Translation of written materials in 7 languages will occur across both years of the grant. Data will be collected throughout the process and materials will be widely available to programs. Stay tuned for more details as this project is launched!

For lots of free resources and Massachusetts specific materials check out the Mass Act Early website:

www.maactearly.org

Autism Speaks 100 Day Toolkit

The Autism Speaks 100 Day Kit for Newly Diagnosed Families of Young Children was created specifically for families of children ages 4 and under to make the best possible use of the 100 days following their child's diagnosis of autism. Anyone can download the 100 Day Kit for free or you can also view a PDF of each section by clicking on the links provided.

Here's an excerpt from the section entitled: Ten Things Every Child With Autism Wishes You Knew

"4. I'm a concrete thinker. I interpret language literally.

You confuse me by saying, "Hold your horses, cowboy!" when what you mean is, "Stop running." Don't tell me something is "a piece of cake" when there's no dessert in sight and what you mean is, "This will be easy for you to do." When you say, "It's pouring cats and dogs," I see pets coming out of a pitcher..."

Families whose children have been diagnosed in the last 6 months may request a complimentary hard copy of the 100 Day Kit by calling 888-AUTISM2 (888-288-4762) and speaking with an Autism Response Team Coordinator. Through a generous partnership with FedEx, after calling an Autism Response Team coordinator and providing them with your information, you can pick up a complimentary printed copy of the 100 Day Kit or AS/HFA Kit at a FedEx Office location near you! Or, for families who do not meet the necessary requirements to receive a complimentary hard copy, the 100 Day Kit is available for purchase in the Autism Speaks Online Store.

For more information: www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/tool-kits/100-day-kit

EITC Update

Foundations of MA EI (Part 1): Partnering with Families Throughout the IFSP Process

Registration for Foundations of MA EI (Part 1)[formerly BAC]: Partnering with Families Throughout the IFSP Process is now open on the EITC website:

www.cvent.com/EVENTS/Calendar/Calendar.aspx?cal=989eaea2-9183-43ca-9654-50e460d66645

NOTE: Prerequisites for this face-to-face workshop are 2 on-line modules:

- History of Massachusetts Early Intervention 8.1
- Principles and Practices of Early Intervention: Child Development 1.1;1.4

PIWI Implementation Plan

The first cohort for PIWI training has received this information and those programs are signing up for their trainings. The **OPTIONAL** training opportunities listed here are open for all Program Directors.

Optional Training Opportunities:

There will be 4 regional PIWI trainings that will be available to Program Directors from any program, and program designated PIWI Champions, from Cohort 1. This training will be the SAME content as will be offered in the Program Training, however, it is an opportunity for Program Directors and/or PIWI Champions to hear the content prior to their Program Training, to prepare for implementation. Those who attend these trainings will also be expected to attend their Program Trainings. Program Directors and PIWI Champions from Cohort 1 may attend any of the following trainings:

Dates: ALL trainings will be 9:30am – 4pm

8/10/16	Western Regional Health Office, Northampton MA
8/25/16	Northeast Regional Health Office, Tewksbury Hospital, Tewksbury MA
9/15/16	Criterion Valley EIP, Milford MA
10/6/16	Wellesley Library, Wellesley MA

To register, please go to: www.cvent.com/EVENTS/Calendar/Calendar.aspx?cal=989eaea2-9183-43ca-9654-50e460d66645

Below, you will find information that has been shared with Cohort 1 about the PIWI implementation and the expectations for programs and staff. For those programs NOT in Cohort 1, this is just for your information moving forward. We will share it again prior to the implementation with your cohort.

PIWI Program Training: Cohort 1 (sign up dates August—December 2016)

Who needs to attend:

REQUIRED: EI Specialists working 20+ hours and those working less than 20 hours who serve in the role as service coordinator.

RECOMMENDED: All EI Specialists working at the program.

Prerequisites: Overview of the Pyramid Model Framework: On-line module (www.eitrainingcenter.org)

Logistics: PIWI facilitators (2) will train at a location designated by the EI program for their staff. Programs will need to provide:

- Training space for their staff
- Equipment for presentation:
 - ◆ Laptop
 - ◆ Projector/Screen
 - ◆ Speakers

Programs who do not have access to this equipment must contact Noah Feldman (noah.feldman@state.ma.us) at the EI Training Center at least 2 weeks prior to their training date to arrange to borrow the equipment.

PIWI Coaching (initiated at the program Post Program Training and running through July 2017)

One of the Training Facilitators from the Program Training will serve as your PIWI Coach. The PIWI Coach will meet with the Program PIWI Champions (see below for more detail) to determine an Action Plan [Template provided by DPH] for supporting the use of Triadic Strategies in home visiting for the staff at the program. The PIWI Coach will schedule between 3-6 coaching sessions (90-120 minutes each) with the PIWI Champions to support their ability to coach program staff in using triadic strategies in home visits. PIWI coach activities will include:

- Facilitating discussions with the PIWI Champions on the strengths and challenges within the program with regard to implementing the PIWI
- Determining an action plan with the PIWI Champions to address the challenges [Template will be provided by DPH]

PIWI coach activities MAY include:

- Training and activities to support building confidence and competence in the PIWI Champions in supporting the triadic strategies
- One-on-one sessions with the PIWI Champions to support their individual challenges in coaching their program team

PIWI Champions

Role: The PIWI Champions are designated by the EI Program Director to support the implementation at the EI program. Each EI program is responsible for identifying the number of PIWI champions that can support the implementation of the PIWI program wide. PIWI Champions will be responsible for:

- Participating in the PIWI coaching sessions (see above for more detail)
- Support program staff in implementing the PIWI through the use of triadic strategies during home visits by following the Action Plan developed with the PIWI Coach.
- Observe or review video of staff during home visits and collect data on the number of times they are using triadic strategies: Each PIWI Champion will complete this data collection on at least 4 staff members. 2-3 observations with the same family, observations would be 1 month apart from one another. [Form will be provided by DPH]
- Document coaching or other supporting activities with staff [Form will be provided by DPH]

Staff Responsibilities

All program staff who attend the PIWI training will be required to use the strategies discussed in their home visits with a parent or caregiver.

PIWI Evaluation

1. PIWI Champions will submit their data collection on the use of triadic strategies (see above for detail). [Form provided by DPH]
2. Two volunteer staff from each program to video 3 home visits all with the same family, each 1 month apart. (These videos can also be used by the PIWI champion for their data collection). These videos will be coded for quality characteristics and feedback.
3. PIWI Champions will submit their training and support activities (see above for detail) [Form provided by DPH]
4. Staff will complete on-line self-assessments (on-line)

NOTE: This is the data collection plan for the first year of implementation. We will be evaluating the effectiveness of this data collection plan and determining the on-going methodology after we complete the implementation plan with the 1st cohort.



Replacement of EI Training Center Competency Certificates

It is highly recommended that you keep your Certificates from the Early Intervention Training Center in a safe and secure place. You will need them when the time comes to compile your portfolio.

In the event that a certificate is misplaced, please contact Laura Guida at AdCare Educational Institute laura@adcare-educational.org or 508-752-7313.

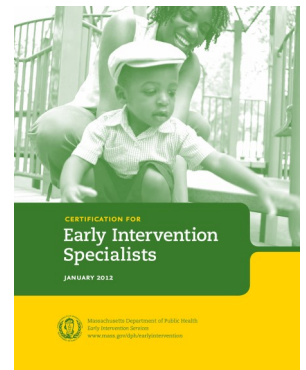
CEIS Portfolio Due Dates

Any professional working a total of 20 or more hours per week, at one or more MDPH certified in an early intervention program(s), as a staff member, consultant or fee for service employee, is required to complete an application for full certification; and become fully certified within three years of his/her date of hire. The CEIS portfolio is due on the last day of the month corresponding to the month during which you were hired, e.g. if you are hired on August 1, 2016, your portfolio is due on August 31, 2019. At your time of hire, you receive a letter from the Department of Public Health advising you of your due date.

For staff whose hours drop to fewer than 20 hours per week, the due date is adjusted: The time period during which your hours are reduced does not count toward your 3 year time frame, i.e. your certification "clock" stops ticking during that time period. If your hours increase again to over 20 hours per week your "clock" begins ticking again. **You are expected to monitor your own hours** to determine your due date. You may need to consult your program's administration or human resources staff to determine exact dates for changes in hours. It is your responsibility to keep track and use this information in determining your due date.

CEIS Manual

The CEIS manual is posted on the EI Training Center web site at www.eitrainingcenter.org/pd/?page=certificationrev#2012. In addition to the entire manual, the portfolio cover sheet and the required sections for each entry may be downloaded separately. You may complete forms individually online, download them, and print them prior to submitting your portfolio. Applicants are strongly encouraged to complete the sections online. For staff members who want a printed manual, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Health Promotion Clearing House will have a repository of manuals that may be ordered by individual programs. Further information regarding the process for ordering manuals from the clearing house will be made available within the next few weeks.



FY17 Support for Massachusetts EI Programs for Supervision of Interns

The EI Training Center at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health is continuing a program to support local Early Intervention sites in hosting interns from Massachusetts Approved Higher Education Programs.

Those programs are:

- Bay Path University: Certificate Program in Early Intervention
- Lesley University: Bachelor's degree programs in Child and Family Studies or Early Childhood Education with an EI Concentration
- Northeastern University: Graduate degree programs in Speech Language Pathology, Counseling Psychology, School Psychology or Physical Therapy with an EI Concentration; Bachelor's degree programs in Communication Disorders and Psychology, both with an EI Concentration; Interdisciplinary Early Intervention Certificate Program
- MGH Institute of Health Professions: Graduate degree program in Speech Language Pathology with an EI Concentration
- UMASS Boston: Bachelor's degree program in Early Education and Care in Inclusive Settings with a concentration in Early Intervention

Internships of at least 300 hours will be supported through this initiative. The hosting Massachusetts EI program will receive \$300 and each site supervisor will receive \$200. NOTE: An EI programs may now apply for support for more than 1 intern per semester. For each additional intern approved, each additional site supervisor can receive the \$200 stipend. Reimbursement will be issued based on successful review and applications are reviewed in order or receipt. Programs may apply for internship support for one student per semester.

For applications please contact Emily Webb emily.webb@state.ma.us.



Comments, contributions or feedback, please contact:

Patti Fougere

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617-624-5975