

Attention Ohio Early Intervention Stakeholders:

Four of the five Early Intervention rules are due for their five-year review. This process must be completed no later than July 1, 2024. DODD aims to have the rules completed and through the filings and formal public comment reviews sometime in March 2024, with a July 1, 2024 implementation date. This will allow time to finalize and provide trainings on the rules and forms and to develop and update guidance documents and other job aids.

Starting in late winter/early spring 2023, DODD will begin to convene the stakeholder workgroups for the rules. We are planning on three separate workgroups with each group having 3-5 remote meetings. Additionally, we will share a draft of the rule with all EI stakeholders so individuals unable to participate in a workgroup also have the opportunity to provide feedback. The rules covered by which workgroup are described below along with tentative meeting dates.

Workgroup 1:

[Rule 5123-10-02](#), [Appendix A](#), [Appendix B](#), and [Appendix C](#) (Early Intervention Eligibility and Services) set forth Early Intervention system requirements for eligibility, developmental screening, evaluation, assessment, individualized family service plan meetings and content, transition to preschool and other programs, service coordination, Early Intervention records, and exiting and transferring from the Early Intervention system.

Most meetings in March and April with an opportunity for sharing of draft rule to all EI stakeholders in May

Workgroup 2:

[Rule 5123-10-01](#) (Early Intervention Services - Procedural Safeguards) sets forth procedural safeguards in the Early Intervention system, including the provisions of parental consent and notice; retention, confidentiality, access to, and amendment of records; and dispute resolution.

[Rule 5123-10-03](#) (Early Intervention Services - System of Payments) sets forth a system to pay for activities and expenses that are reasonable and necessary for implementing Ohio's Early Intervention system for eligible children and their families.

Most meetings in April and May with an opportunity for sharing of draft rule to all EI stakeholders in June

Workgroup 3:

[Rule 5123-10-04](#) (Early Intervention Services - Credentials for Early Intervention Service Coordinators and Early Intervention Service Coordination Supervisors) establishes minimum qualifications through credentialing standards for Early Intervention Service Coordinators and Early Intervention Service Coordination Supervisors. All persons working in these positions are required to hold the appropriate credential issued in accordance with the rule.

Most meetings in July and August with an opportunity for sharing of draft rule to all EI stakeholders in late August

We are soliciting stakeholders for each workgroup with an anticipated maximum of 20 participants per workgroup. Priority will be given to members of the EI Advisory Council and Stakeholder Group. DODD is particularly interested in robust participation from the following groups:

- Parents/family members whose children are now receiving EI services or received them in the past
- Diverse EI providers, including diversity in geography (urban/suburban/rural) and provider agency and agency type (county board, non-county board, service coordination-only, etc.)
- EI service providers currently working in the EI field, including EI service coordinators and interventionists
- Groups that represent or advocate for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families within the EI system (e.g., the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities)
- Representatives from the early intervention professional development community (e.g., institutes of higher education, OCCRRA)

There will be multiple opportunities for feedback to draft rules from the early intervention field. The drafts developed by the workgroups will be shared widely with the field through the bi-weekly program updates and other avenues prior to the final workgroup meeting. Additionally, the department will share draft rules with the stakeholders statewide during the “clearance process” (late autumn 2023 anticipated) and through the public comment process as required by state and federal laws.

Application for Participation in EI Rule Workgroups

If you are interested in participating in a workgroup, please fill out the information below and e-mail your completed application to katrina.bush@dodd.ohio.gov no later than February 10.

Name:

Role/responsibility in the EI system (e.g., parent of a child served in EI, service coordinator, interventionist, contract manager, interested stakeholder, etc.):

Agency (if applicable):

County (not applicable for applicants representing statewide agencies/organizations):

Email address:

Workgroup interested in participating in (rank order if more than one):

___ **Workgroup 1:** Early Intervention Eligibility and Services

___ **Workgroup 2:** Early Intervention Procedural Safeguards *and* Early Intervention System of Payments

___ **Workgroup 3:** Credentials for Early Intervention Service Coordinators and Early Intervention Service Coordination Supervisors)

Please provide a brief statement about your interest in participating in the workgroup. Consider addressing any relevant personal or professional experiences, unique perspectives, and skills you would bring to the workgroup: