

# EDN Services Coordination Meeting

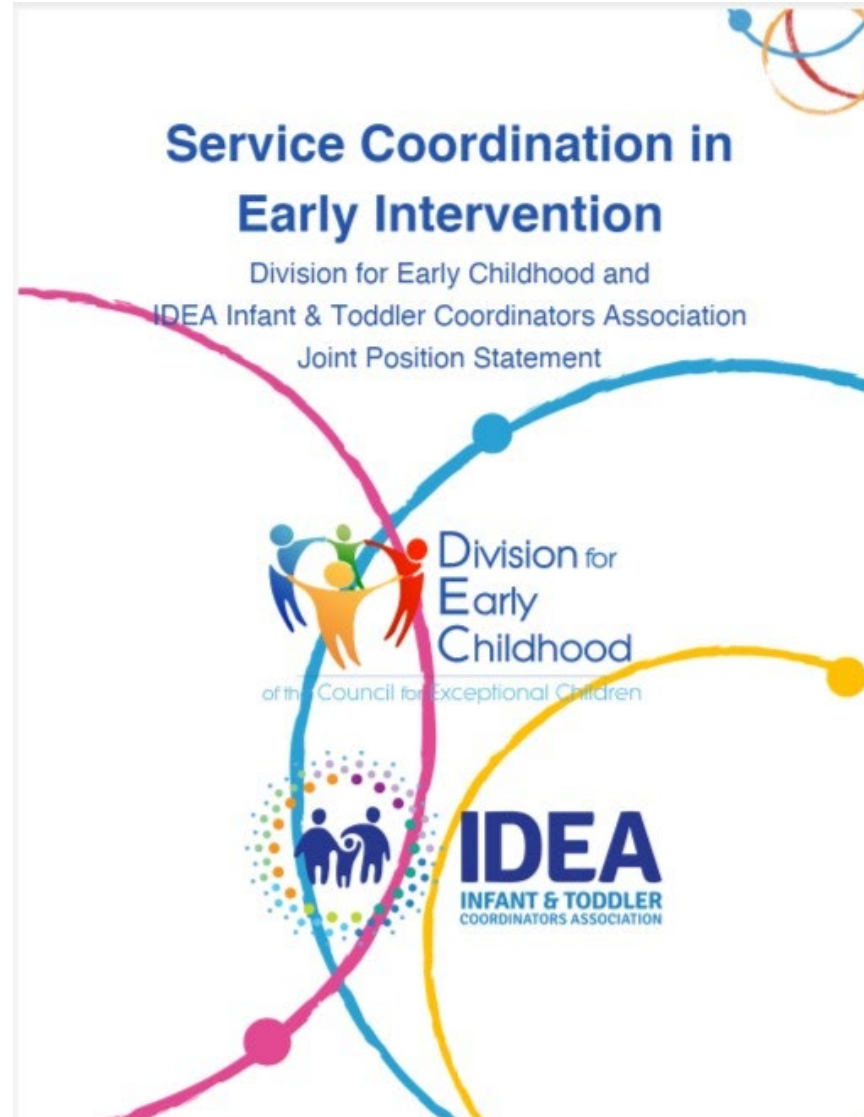


**Nebraska Early  
Development Network**

# Agenda

4:00 – 4:20 p.m.	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>
4:20 – 4:45 p.m.	<b>The Role of a Services Coordinator</b>
4:45 – 5:00 p.m.	<b>Procedural Safeguards: What does this Mean?</b>
5:00 – 5:15 p.m.	<b>Program Updates and Requests</b>
5:15 – 6:00 p.m.	<b>Q &amp; A Session</b>
6:00-7:00 p.m	<b>Facilitated Networking and Technical Assistance</b>

# The Role of a Services Coordinator



# Early Intervention Service Coordination

- “to assist and enable an infant or toddler with a disability and the child’s family to receive the services and rights, including procedural safeguards.” (34 C.F.R. 303.34)

# Service Coordination is unique because:

- It is the only federally mandated service to be provided to all eligible children at no charge to families
- Because of the roles and responsibilities of the services coordinator and the individualized support they provide to the family

# Specific Service Coordinator Activities

1. Assisting parents of infants and toddlers with disabilities in obtaining access to needed early intervention services and other services identified in the IFSP, including making referrals to providers for needed services and scheduling appointments for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families;
2. Coordinating the provision of early intervention services and other services that the child needs or is being provided.
3. Coordinating evaluations and assessments.
4. Facilitating and participating in the development, review, and evaluation of IFSPs

# Specific Service Coordinator Activities

5. Conducting referral and other activities to assist families in identifying available providers
6. Coordinating, facilitating, and monitoring the delivery of services required under this part to ensure that the services are provided in a timely manner;
7. Conducting follow-up activities to determine that appropriate Part C services are being provided;

# Specific Service Coordinator Activities

- 8.** Informing families of their rights and procedural safeguards
- 9.** Coordinating the funding sources for services
- 10.** Facilitating the development of a transition plan to preschool, school, or if appropriate, to other services



# Service Coordinator Beliefs

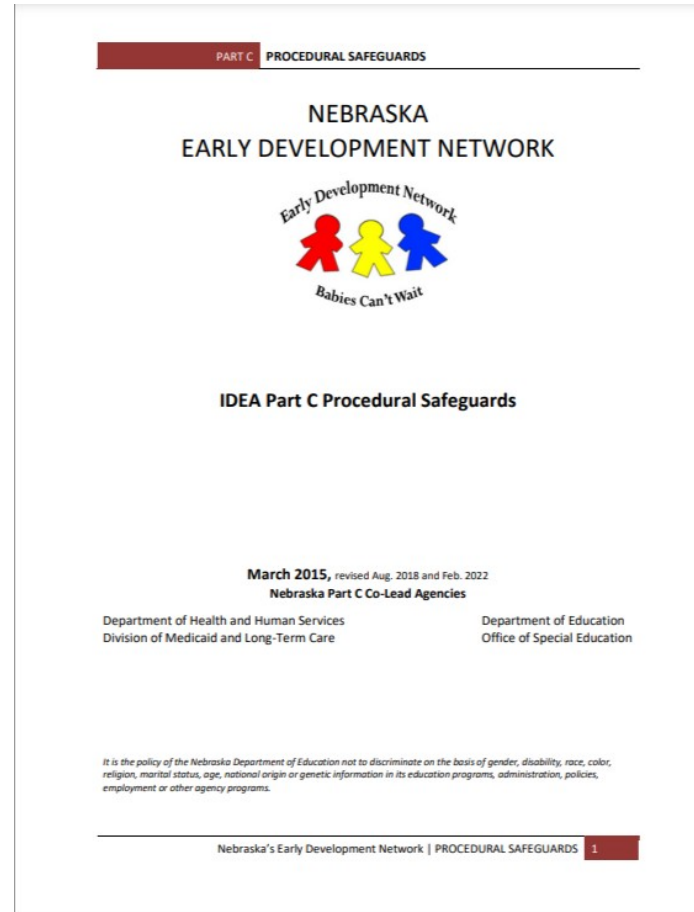
- The value of family.
- The strength of a team approach to support families
- Their own value.

“Responsive, family-centered service coordination is a cornerstone of a successful EI experience for families.”

# Service Coordination Expertise

- Early Intervention Process
- Local, State, and Federal policies and procedures and how they apply to effective service delivery.
- Provide guidance to prepare families for each step in the process.
- Team Leadership, facilitation, and collaboration.
- Their knowledge of and ability to build relationships with community resources.
- How to build strong family-professional partnerships

# Procedural Safeguards



# Parent Rights and Procedural Safeguards

A parent of a child with a disability has certain rights which are guaranteed by state (Rule 52) and federal (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act {IDEA}) laws.

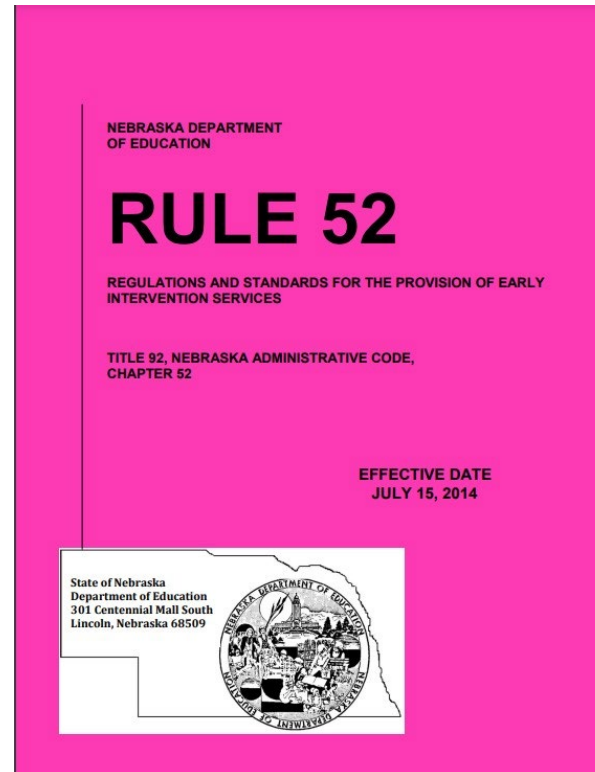
# Procedural Safeguards

A copy of the Procedural Safeguards Notice must be provided to parents one time per year, and also:

- upon request by the parent
- upon initial referral or parental request for evaluation
- upon the first occurrence of the filing of a state complaint and the first occurrence of filing a special education due process complaint
- in accordance with discipline procedures

# Specific Service Coordinator Activities

## 8. Informing families of their rights and procedural safeguards



# Parent Rights Regarding EDN Services

Before eligibility for early intervention is determined, parents have the right to:

- Services Coordination
- To act as the primary and final decision maker for their child
- Access services which include:
  - Early identification of concerns
  - A multidisciplinary evaluation
  - Determination of their child's eligibility
  - To voluntarily withdraw from or refuse the EDN process/specific services

# Parent Rights Regarding EDN Services

- If their child is determined eligible to receive EDN Services, parents have the right to:
  - Services Coordination
  - An Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP)
  - Receive early intervention services related to their child's development
  - Agree to services, but disagree with how often or where the services will be provided
  - Refuse some services recommended by the IFSP team and still receive other services (Informed Consent)

# Parent Rights Regarding EDN Services

If their child is determined eligible to receive EDN Services, parents have the right to:

- Participate in all meetings concerning the child's EI services
- Have meetings at a time and place convenient to their family
- Receive timely written notice of any changes with any service involving their child, meeting participants, and the date/time/location of MDT and IFSP meetings
- Receive notices and IFSP documents in their native language or the mode of communication used in their home.
- Receive services as listed in the IFSP, in their child's natural environment
- Dispute resolution

# Parent Rights Regarding EDN Services

If their child is determined eligible to receive EDN Services, parent have the right to:

- Confidentiality of information/records, and access to their child's records
- Year round services, which are provided timely
- Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
- Access to all members of the IFSP team
- Receive services until August 31<sup>st</sup> following their child's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday

# The Parent's rights were violated. Now what?

- **Work it out informally**-the SC and family can meet, or meet as an IFSP team to work on the concerns.
- **Request Special Education Mediation**-this is a voluntary process where a neutral third party helps parents and providers resolve disagreements.  
<https://www.education.ne.gov/sped/mediation/>

# The Parent's rights were violated. Now what?

- **File a Complaint**-The parent can file a written complaint with NDE which will be investigated by State Complaint Investigator (Note: Services Coordinator complaints are also investigated by EDN staff at DHHS.) The complaint form is online at <https://www.education.ne.gov/cc/complaint-form/>.
- **Request a Due Process Hearing**-A formal hearing or proceeding conducted by a Hearing Officer appointed by NDE. A request must be submitted to NDE in writing and include the complaint.

# The Parent's rights were violated. Now what?

## **Additional Resources to provide to parents:**

PTI Nebraska (Parent Training and Information)

Connie Shockley, Parent Support Coordinator, 402-403-3911

[cshockley@pti-nebraska.org](mailto:cshockley@pti-nebraska.org)

Disability Rights Nebraska

402-474-3183

[info@disabilityrightsnebraska.org](mailto:info@disabilityrightsnebraska.org)



# Updates



## CONNECT Reminders

- When emailing, only use the client ID for CONNECT.
- CAPTA referrals that went to the wrong region.
- Do not process CAPTA referrals for clients that have aged out.
- When you close the EDN case, make sure you close the AD case too.
- Do not use the back button when submitting billing.



## AD Waiver Reminders

- All AD Waiver Policy Questions need to be emailed to [DHHS.ADWaiverFAQ@nebraska.gov](mailto:DHHS.ADWaiverFAQ@nebraska.gov).
  - Please cc Jessica and Becky on these emails.
- Therap Questions only need to be sent to [DHHS.TherapADTBI@nebraska.gov](mailto:DHHS.TherapADTBI@nebraska.gov).



# Logo Update





# Learn the Signs: Act Early

## Learn the Signs. Act Early Mission



To improve early identification of developmental delays and disabilities,  
including autism, by facilitating  
**parent-engaged developmental monitoring** and  
promoting developmental screening, so  
children and their families can get the  
early services and support they need.

# Partnership





# Multimedia Child Find Campaign

- Digital campaign utilizing social media
  - Click through to EDN landing page
  - Target Audience utilizing zip codes
    - English
    - Spanish
    - Native American





# EDN Landing Page

## Newly Added Electronic Referral Link

### Make a Referral

Start

Child's Information

Child's First Name \*

Child's Last Name \*

Gender of Child \*

☐ Male

☐ Female

☐ Other...

Child's Date of Birth \*

Month

Day

Year



# Multimedia Child Find Campaign



- Outdoor advertising
  - Locations
    - Winnebago Reservation
    - Crete
    - Omaha Reservation
    - Schuyler
    - Lexington
    - Grand Island





# Multimedia Child Find Campaign

- Radio Advertising
  - KBBX – Omaha Hispanic Radio
  - KRGI – Grand Island Hispanic radio
  - KOPW – Omaha Urban Rhythmic
  - KPOW – Omaha Urban Rhythmic
  - KXYK - "NICC" Indian Community College Radio Station





# EDN Online Referral Form

## The Nebraska Early Development Network

provides early intervention services for families with children birth to age three with developmental delays and/or health care needs and connects families to needed services.

If you have concerns about your child's development and would like to send a referral use the button below.

[MAKE A REFERRAL TODAY](#)





# EDN Online Referral Form

- Online Referral Form is live on the EDN website.
- All referrals received are sent to Karen Hoffman (NDE)/Rebecca Hoffman (DHHS) and forwarded on to the correct SC agency.
- Please do NOT use Karen/Rebecca as the referral source in CONNECT, use the person who completed the Online Referral form.
- This form gathers basic information needed for a referral. If additional information is needed, the SC must gather that upon contact with the parent. Please do not contact Karen or Becky for more information as they are not contacting families.

# Child Find

- Regulations for Part C of IDEA state that states must have a "comprehensive child find system" with the purpose of identifying, locating, and evaluating all infants and toddlers with disabilities birth to age three as early as possible.
- Who's responsible for child find in the PRTs....everyone

# Child Find Requirements

- outreach to medical/mental health providers and clinics, hospitals, public health clinics, physician, dental, audiology and optometrist offices, NICUs, etc. in your region
- outreach to Head Starts, Sixpence, WIC clinics, Community Action Agencies, other child welfare programs
- Federal regs require outreach/coordination with these additional programs/populations:
  - Indians residing on reservations; Tribal organizations, homeless shelters/organizations; NDHHS - foster care/wards of the state, Public Health home visiting programs; child care programs; Domestic Violence organizations/shelters; EHDI;

# Child Find Outreach Ideas

- Radio, TV, billboard, social media, magazine advertising
- Local Community events such as: parades, county fairs, health fairs, etc.
- Cultural events/gatherings for Tribal organizations, Hispanic/Asian/Refugee cultural centers/events, etc.
- Meet with doctors, pediatricians, etc.



# Child Find Resources

- <https://edn.ne.gov/cms/make-a-referral-0>
- <https://childfind.nebraska.gov/>



# Differentiated Monitoring and Support DMS 2.0

Monitoring conducted by the US Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) as part of the Results Driven Accountability system under IDEA Parts B and C.

OSEP conducts monitoring of a states' general supervision system with a focus on improving results for infants and toddlers with disabilities.

Nebraska is scheduled to participate in the federal monitoring process beginning late summer 2022.

Phase 1 - Document Request and Interviews of State agency personnel

Phase 2 - Onsite or virtual visit focusing on issues that require further exploration or additional discussions as identified by OSEP.\*

Phase 3 - Close-out and Follow-up: State must implement corrective action based upon Findings issued by OSEP, including receipt of technical assistance by national TA centers.

# DMS 2.0

## **\*Phase 2 - Stakeholder Feedback process:**

OSEP will conduct a virtual meeting with PTI-NE for one hour to hear a summary of issues identified by parents within our state.

OSEP will conduct a one hour focus group meeting with 6-10 parents identified by the PTI - to identify any issues they may want to share within our state. PTI and OSEP will ensure focus group is reflective of representativeness of population served within our state.

1 hour virtual focus group meeting with members of the State Interagency Coordinating Council (ECICC).



## DMS 2.0- Stakeholder Feedback Process

OSEP will conduct interviews with local EDN personnel via interviews with identified EI providers/services coordinators.

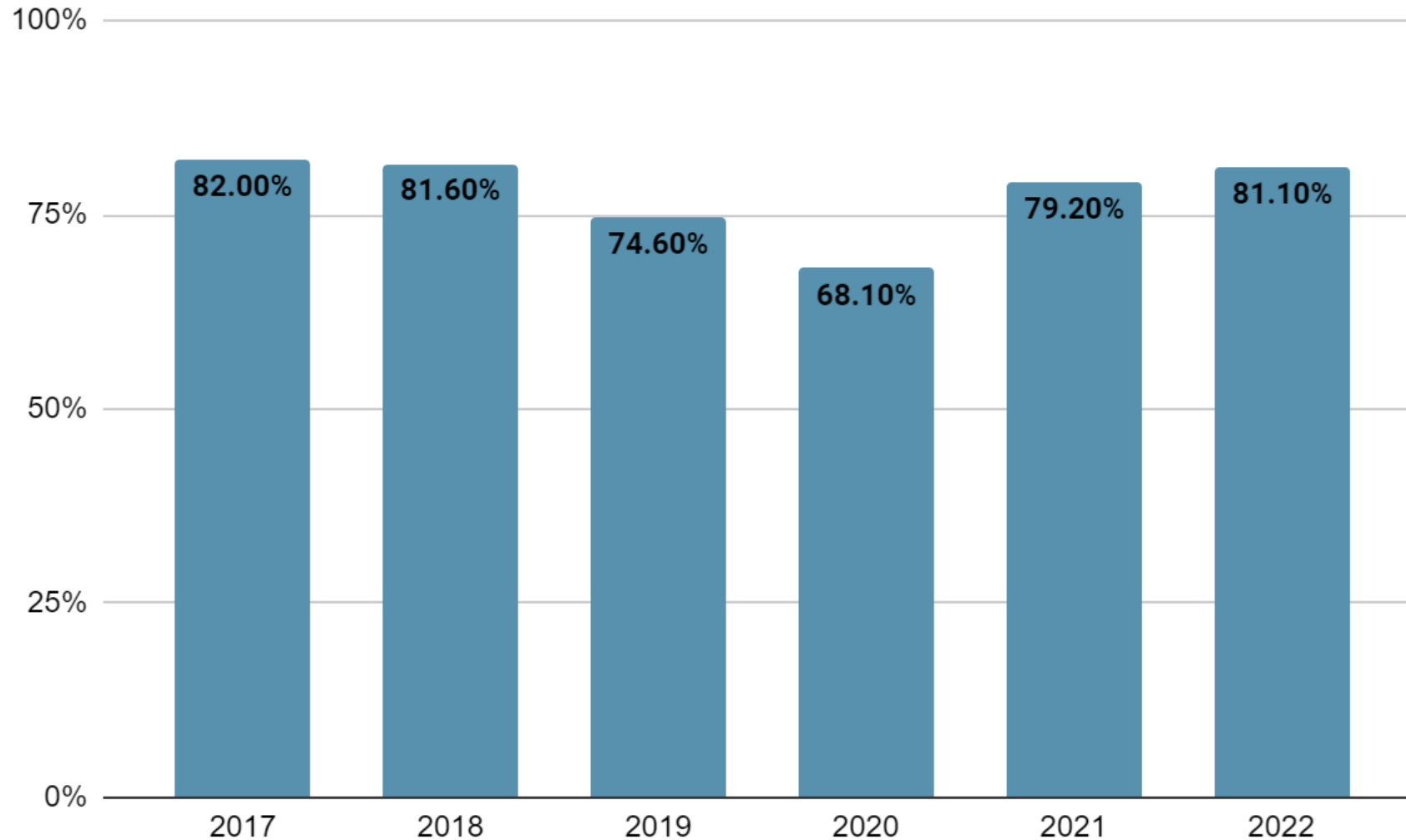
Content will focus on PRT Determinations, geographic, economic and ethnicity considerations to ensure an equitable distribution and representation of the state; issues raised in the media or customer service calls to OSEP concerning IDEA issues at the local level.

Will receive general questions prior to the interview. State staff will not participate in the calls with OSEP and local providers.

Information will be used as an additional data point in OSEP's monitoring of the state.

Focus areas include: Child Find policies/procedures; ensuring Timely Evaluations; Transition; Dispute Resolution procedures; Fiscal procedures

# Family Survey Return Rates



# Annual Public Reporting Data

Two ways to find this:

- ILCD 3.0
- <https://edn.ne.gov/cms/regional-public-reporting-tables>



# Ask the Co-Leads





# Ask the Co-Leads

Q: Why isn't there an option for SCs to do virtual services?



# Ask the Co-Leads

A: Federal requirements for the provision of virtual service delivery is only allowable in response to emergency public health/directed health measures due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, Nebraska regulations and Medicaid billing requirements require the Services Coordinator to meet face to face with the family and child at least every other month.



# Ask the Co-Leads

Q: Why do EDN Services Coordinators have to continue handling A&D Waiver cases?



# Ask the Co-Leads

**A:** EDN is required to provide Services Coordination for A&D Waiver cases due to regulations found in 480 NAC 1-005.03-The Services Coordinator will ensure that all eligible infants and toddlers requiring nursing facility level of care services will be offered Aged and Disabled Medicaid Home and Community Based Waiver services as an option for services coordination. The waiver services provided to eligible children are governed by 480 NAC Chapters 2-6.



# Ask the Co-Leads

Q: What should the IFSP team do if the family does not have or want a family goal?



# Ask the Co-Leads

A: Per the TA Guidebook, Section 11 “Initial Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) and Implementation, “Through the IFSP process, families can express their desired outcomes and participate in planning for their child and family.”



# Ask the Co-Leads

Q: What is required in the “What Will Be Done By Whom” section on the IFSP?



# Ask the Co-Leads

**A:** Per the IFSP instructions, posted on the EDN website: List the activities to be done by appropriate IFSP team members, including the family, to accomplish the outcome.

This section records the strategies and methods that will lead to achievement of the outcome and who will help with the outcome (both early intervention providers and informal supports). Strategies are Who will do What in Which everyday routines, activities, and places. Describe in detail what the various team members (including family, friends, and other caregivers) will do in order to meet the outcome.

# Ask the Co-Leads

Q: Should teams be completing an evaluation tool when there is documentation of the child having a diagnosed condition (failure to thrive, positive drug test, hearing loss, etc.)?



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# Ask the Co-Leads

## **A: The federal and state regulations define 3 procedures evaluation teams must use in determining eligibility:**

1. Use of a child's medical or other records if those records indicate the child's level of functioning in one or more areas meets the state's criterion for significant delay as defined in 006.04B: 2.0 standard deviations below the mean in one area of development or at least 1.3 standard deviations below the mean in 2 or more areas of development; or the medical or other records reflect that the child has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in a substantial developmental delay in one or more areas, and includes the conditions listed above (Rule 52-006.04A1-A2 and 006.04B). When using a child's medical or other records to establish eligibility then the team does not conduct an evaluation (Rule 52-006.05B). Instead, the team must conduct the child assessment (Rule 52-006.05B1) and family assessment (480 NAC 1), i.e. the RBI.
2. If the medical or other records do not indicate the child meets the state criterion as a child with a disability, as described above, then the team must follow the Procedures for Evaluation found in Rule 52-006.06.
3. If, after conducting all procedures listed within 52-006.06, the child does not clearly meet the definition of a child experiencing a significant delay in one or more areas (52-006.04B), then the team is required to use informed clinical opinion when conducting evaluations and assessments of the child to establish eligibility. The school district *shall ensure that informed clinical opinion may be used as an independent basis to establish a child's eligibility even when other instruments do not establish eligibility* (Rule 52-006.05B2).



# Ask the Co-Leads

**Q:** Is it compliant to list services coordination as the only service on the IFSP, if parent declines all other EI services?



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# Ask the Co-Leads

**A:** Yes, services coordination can be the only EI service provided to the child/family. The IFSP must reflect the services offered to the parent by the IFSP team, and then the parent must list the service(s) they accept within the IFSP category of:

**I/We do not agree with the proposed IFSP as written.  
However, I/we do consent to the following  
services/frequency:**

# Resources

- Link to Joint Position Statement:  
<https://www.dec-sped.org/single-post/new-service-coordination-in-early-intervention-joint-position-statement>
- Link to SC Community of Practice:  
<https://www.dec-sped.org/servicecoordinationcop>
- Link to Nebraska EDN Regulations:  
<https://edn.ne.gov/cms/policies-procedures/state-regulations>
- Technical Assistance Guidebook  
<https://edn.ne.gov/cms/technical-assistance-guidebook>

# Co-Lead Contact Information

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