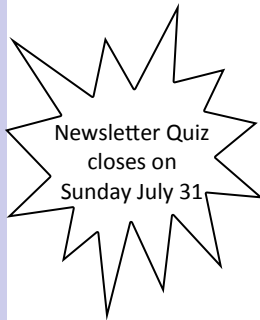




First Steps

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- Newsletter Quiz



First Steps Contact Information

First Steps General
Inbox

FirstStepsWeb@fssa.IN.gov

Provider Enrollment

INFSEnroll@csc.com

First Steps State

Website

<http://www.in.gov/fssa/4655.htm>

Online FSCT Trainings

<http://www.eikids.com/in/matrix/UnifiedTraining.asp>

First Steps Newsletters

<http://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/4986.htm>

AEPS, DSP & SC

Registration

<http://fs-aeps-dsp-sc.weebly.com/>

First Steps Newsletter— May 2016

Staff Updates

An update from First Steps State Director, Dawn Downer:

As I transition back into the role of director of First Steps, I wanted to take the opportunity to provide an update on a few activities within the state office, a glimpse into the activities that are planned for the upcoming months, and to extend my appreciation to those of you that have offered your support and encouragement.

At the state level, a lot has been happening over the month of April. The federal grant application, as well as the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) was submitted to the federal Office of Special Education Programing (OSEP). We also responded to clarifications to the Annual Performance Report (APR). All of these documents may be found [online](http://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/2812.htm) at <http://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/2812.htm>, and we would encourage you to look them over as they provide you with important information regarding the state's status on compliance and improvement efforts that are mandated by OSEP.

Just as important as the federal reporting, the First Steps team has spent much of the preceding month reviewing the current First Steps system and its operations, and designing strategies to gather feedback from stakeholders, including families, providers and community members. Therefore, in the upcoming weeks, it is our intent to post information materials, including surveys and meeting invitations bringing stakeholders to the table to provide input on strategies to strengthen the system.

I appreciate your patience as I transition back into the role of director as it has been a very busy month. I am, however, very grateful for the work of Anne Davis and the First Steps team. I look forward to working with all of you and thank you for your continued support of the system.

DDRS Updates

Kylee Hope was appointed as Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) Director, effective March 7, 2016.

Prior to her current position, Kylee served as the Director of the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (a bureau under DDRS), which includes the Vocational Rehabilitation Program. Kylee's education includes B.A. Degree in Special Education from Purdue University and a J.D. from Indiana School of Law - Indianapolis. Kylee has a teaching license and is admitted to practice law in both districts in Indiana. Kylee's career has been dedicated to working on increasing opportunities for individuals with disabilities to have healthier, more self-sufficient and independent lives.

You can stay informed of all program changes and announcements by signing up for the DDRS updates [online](http://www.in.gov/fssa/2328.htm) at <http://www.in.gov/fssa/2328.htm>

First Steps Newsletter— May 2016

AEPS Part 2 Training Dates

Dates for AEPS Part 2 training have been scheduled. This is an in person training that must be completed by all members of the Assessment Team within the first year of their enrollment.

- Friday May 6, 2016 9:00am—4:00pm
 - Friday August 12, 2016 9:00am—4:00pm
 - Friday November 4, 2016 9:00am—4:00pm
 - Friday January 20, 2017 9:00am—4:00pm
 - Friday March 3, 2017 9:00am—4:00pm
- All AEPS trainings will take place at Peds TLC Pediatric Training and Learning Center 6239 S. East Street Suite A1 Indianapolis, IN 46227.
- Register for trainings [here](#).
- <http://fs-aeps-dsp-sc.weebly.com/>

DSP 102 & 103 Training Dates

Dates for DSP 102 & 103 trainings have been scheduled. These are on-site trainings that must be completed by all providers within the first year of their enrollment. Trainings may be completed on the same day.

- Tuesday May 3, 2016 (Indianapolis)
 - Tuesday June 7, 2016 (Indianapolis)
 - Tuesday July 5, 2016 (Indianapolis)
 - Tuesday August 2, 2016 (Crown Point)
 - Tuesday September 6, 2016 (Indianapolis)
 - Tuesday October 4, 2016 (TBD, South)
 - Tuesday November 1, 2016 (Indianapolis)
 - Tuesday December 6, 2016 (Indianapolis)
- Both DSP 102 and DSP 103 are taught on the same day. The provider may choose to take both in one day or take each course on a separate day. DSP 102 is scheduled from 9:00am—noon. DSP 103 is scheduled from 1:00pm—4:00pm
- Register for trainings [here](#).
- <http://fs-aeps-dsp-sc.weebly.com/>

SC 102 & 103 Training Dates

Dates for SC 102 & 103 trainings have been scheduled. These are on-site trainings that must be completed by all service coordinators within the first year of their enrollment.

SC 102 Dates

- Tuesday July 12, 2016
- Tuesday October 11, 2016

SC 103 Dates

- Tuesday May 10, 2016
- Tuesday August 9, 2016
- Tuesday November 15, 2016

All SC courses will take place at ProKids 6923 Hillside Ct. Indianapolis, IN 46250.
SC 102 is scheduled from 9:00am—4:00pm.
SC 103 is scheduled from 9:00am—4:00pm

Register for trainings [here](#).

<http://fs-aeps-dsp-sc.weebly.com/>

First Steps Newsletter— May 2016

Online First Steps Core Training

First Steps Core Trainings and the orientation trainings DSP 101 and SC 101 are available on the EIKids [website](#). Once you have completed the training video/presentation, you must download and complete the competency assessment that is located below the title of the training.

Please send only your answers to the competency assessment to the First Steps Web at FirstStepsWeb@fssa.IN.gov. A score of 80% or higher is required to pass the assessment. You will receive a confirmation email when your assessment has been graded. The grading process can take up to two weeks to complete. **Please maintain a copy of the email as supporting documentation of completing the training.** You are responsible for maintaining all of your training records.

<http://www.eikids.com/in/matrix/UnifiedTraining.asp>

- FSCT – AEPS Part 1: Understanding and Using the AEPS (.3 points)
- FSCT – The Science of Infant Brain Development (.4 points)
- FSCT – Inclusion in Early Care and Education Training (.3 points)
- FSCT – Providing EI Supports & Services in Natural Environments (.5 points)
- FSCT – Family Centered Approach to Procedural Safeguards (.4 points)
- FSCT – Professional Boundaries and Ethics in Home Visiting (.3 points)
- FSCT – Positive Transitions for Children & Families in Early Intervention (.3 points)
- Direct Service Provider 101 (1.0 points)
- Service Coordination 101 (2.0 points)

Newsletter Make-up Quizzes

Newsletter Archives and make-up quizzes are located on the First Steps State [website](#). As part of your yearly credential, you must pass all newsletter quizzes. When completing a make-up quiz you must download the quiz and send your answers to the First Steps Web at FirstStepsWeb@fssa.IN.gov. A score of 80% or higher is required to pass the quiz. You will receive a confirmation email when your quiz has been graded. The grading process can take up to two weeks to complete.

Please maintain a copy of the email as supporting documentation of completing the quiz. You are responsible for maintaining all of your newsletter records.

Newsletter make-up quizzes are worth 0 points.

<http://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/4986.htm>

Newsletter Instructions

Please read all newsletter content thoroughly. You will then follow the link on the last page of the newsletter to take the online assessment. You must pass the assessment with a score of 80% or higher. **Be sure to click through the quiz until you receive the results of your quiz.** Once you reach the page that displays your score, your score has been recorded.

You will not receive an email confirmation with the score of your newsletter quiz. You must print/save the page displaying your score. The State realizes your name and date of completion is not printed on the page, you must write your name and date of completion on the page. Please keep the page with your score in your records as proof of completion. **You are responsible for maintaining all of your newsletter records.**

Please do not to send a copy of this documentation to the First Steps Web or with your credentialing packet.

First Steps Newsletter— May 2016

Provider Substitution Policy

As summer is approaching and vacation plans are being made, please be mindful of the policy regarding substitutes for providers.

First Steps recognizes that there are times when a provider may be unavailable due to illness, vacation or personal emergencies. In these short (less than 2 week) planned or unplanned instances, the provider agency may substitute a provider of the **same level and discipline** when the family indicates a desire to continue the IFSP service without interruption. (Families have the option to wait for their regular provider to return.)

The substitute must provide services as outlined in the IFSP and the plan of care determined by the ongoing provider. The provider agency bills for the substitute under the established authorization. There is no need to notify the service coordinator or the Assessment Team for a change in authorization. Since the provider agency is responsible for all billing, the provider agency is also responsible for insuring the substitute provider is reimbursed per their employment and/or contract agreement.

When the length of absence is anticipated to exceed 2 weeks, (i.e., maternity or family/medical leave) the Provider Agency should contact the family to assist them in choosing a new provider of the **same level and discipline**. If the provider agency is able to identify a new provider of the same level and discipline, the provider agency may continue to bill on the current authorization through its end date. The Provider Agency must notify the service coordinator of the change in provider. The service coordinator will obtain an authorization for the new provider with the next change page authorization.

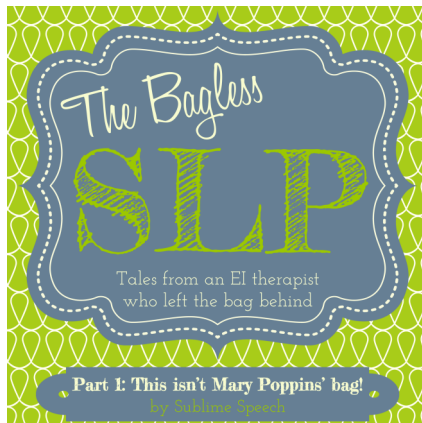
If the provider agency cannot offer a provider of the same level and discipline, they must notify the service coordinator who will contact the family to discuss their options for changing/discontinuing the service or choosing a new provider agency that can offer a provider of the same level and discipline.

First Steps Newsletter— May 2016

The Bagless SLP by Sublime Speech

“I realize that bagless therapy can be controversial in the world of EI therapy and I am by no means an expert on the topic. This series is meant to discuss my perspective and real-life stories from my choice to rid myself, and my clients, of the bag. It has been messy... and it has been incredible... and it has been the best decision for my caseload.”

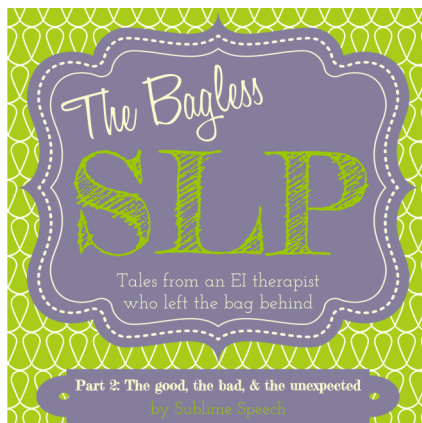
Read [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#) and [Part 3](#)



The Bagless SLP—Part 1: This isn't Mary Poppins' Bag!

“When I started working in Early Intervention I began to acquire toys at an alarming rate. I was visiting children who had few, if any, appropriate toys for their age and development.”

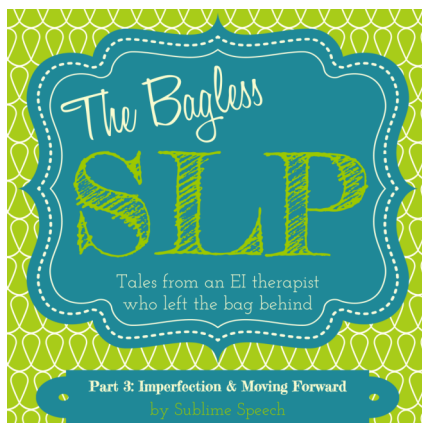
<http://sublimespeech.com/2015/03/bagless-slp-part-1.html>



The Bagless SLP—Part 2: The Good, the Bad, & the Unexpected

“First, a confession... going bagless scared the bubbles out of me! I was terrified of irate parents, inattentive toddlers, and stagnant therapy sessions and progress. I was almost so scared that I stuck to what I had known... the bag.”

<http://sublimespeech.com/2015/03/bagless-slp-part-2.html>



The Bagless SLP—Part 3: Imperfection & Moving Forward

“So, overall, going bagless has been great. I'm so excited to see how this transition continues to benefit my families and the children that I see. There has been less of a focus on me “playing” with the children and more about integrating techniques into daily routines.”

<http://sublimespeech.com/2015/04/bagless-slp-part-3.html>

May 2016 Newsletter Quiz

This quarter's newsletter consists of two parts, a survey and a quiz. The survey must be completed before the quiz questions are displayed. Due to the addition of the survey, the May 2016 Newsletter quiz is worth .4 credentialing points.

Follow this link https://iu.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6Va8zPTIoCKmO0Z to the Newsletter quiz.


Completion of this quiz with a passing score of 80% is required in order to fulfill the newsletter requirement for initial and annual credentialing.

Please be sure that you click through to the last page with your quiz results, and **be sure to print this page for your records**. You will need to retain this as supporting documentation should you be chosen for a quality review audit.

Your name will not appear on the results page. Please write your name and the date completed on your print out.

You will **not** receive an email confirmation of your completion of the newsletter quiz. Your score will be captured electronically, and will be utilized to verify your completion when your credentialing packet is received by Provider Enrollment.

You do **not** need to send a copy of this documentation to the First Steps Web or with your credentialing packet.

10/10  100.0%

1. Family Support programs are broadly defined as: 1/1

Social service programs that provide resources to a whole family

✓ Programs that provide resources to enable parents to successfully support themselves so they can provide a stable, enriching environment for their children

Programs that assist parents with finding a job to support their family

Counseling programs to help parents deal with family stressors

None of the above

2. For Family support programs to be successful, they must actively engage their participants-namely, parents and must be sensitive to the cultural and ethnic diversity of the target populations they serve. 1/1

✓ True

False

Newsletter Quiz due by
Sunday July 31st at
11:59 p.m. EST