



First Steps

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First Steps Contact Information

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Provider Enrollment

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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/>

MICROSOFT

First Steps Newsletter— November 2016

State Updates

We are very excited to announce Christina Commons as the new Director of the Bureau of Child Development (First Steps). Christina comes to this position with a strong background in early childhood development and early intervention. She has 16 years of experience as a Developmental Therapist in First Steps. During that time, she owned her own business, Therapy Solutions, LLC, serving children and families by providing direct services as well as evaluations in partnership with several evaluation teams. Additionally, she spent three years with Pro Kids in Cluster G. Since October of 2014, Christina has been with the Division of Mental Health and Addiction as the Youth and Adolescent Bureau Chief. As an advocate for children's mental wellness, Christina is passionate about infant and toddler development. Her advocacy skills have been demonstrated in working with various state and local agencies to ensure that best practices and policies are developed and implemented. Christina is excited to begin her work with our various early intervention stakeholders as the new First Steps Director. She is looking forward to the opportunity to meet with you and receive your input on how we can continue to improve our work for children and families.

ICC Updates

The Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) has continued the works of the four subcommittees this quarter. The subcommittees, Child and Family Assessment, Policy and Procedure, Provider Availability, and Service Delivery and Training have all worked diligently to develop recommended changes to the First Steps Program. All subcommittee meetings and ICC meetings are open to the public. Your participation is encouraged.

The next meeting of the ICC is Wednesday November 16th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Easter Seals Crossroads, 4740 Kingsway Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46205.

For additional meeting dates please visit our website: http://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/3355.htm#Interagency_Coordinating_Council.

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Description of ICC Subcommittees

Subcommittee Topics	Purpose	Goals
Provider Availability	Services will be available to all infants and toddlers within the state, allowing families to receive timely services and choice of providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ^ Service availability • ^ Provider availability • ^ Recruitment opportunities and PR • Review qualifications • Review credentialing process and requirements
Service Delivery and Training	To support a comprehensive system of personnel development which focusses on the promotion of best practices to ensure that appropriate early intervention services are based on scientifically based research.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ^ Service delivery options for families based on Scientifically Based Research (SBR) • Review best practices • ^Resources by looking at options for service delivery • Promote training and personnel development
Child and Family Assessment	To ensure the performance of a timely multidisciplinary evaluation and IFSP for each child that is family directed, utilizing best practices, including a family assessment, which results in the measurement of child, family and system outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify family centered assessment practices and tools • Review child assessment practices • Support gathering of child outcomes • Support capturing and measuring child progress
Policy and Procedures	The system will have comprehensive policies, procedures and rules that are easily accessible to providers and families that guide best practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend communication strategies for dissemination of policy information • Identification of the types of policies, procedures, and clarifications to be developed and then prioritized for State consideration and possible development • Participation in the revision of 470 to 460 IAC through feedback and identification of new procedures, training and policies as it relates to rule

Following this quarter's newsletter quiz you will be asked to complete a survey developed by the Service Delivery and Training subcommittee. You are encouraged to complete this survey to help determine the next steps for this committee.

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Training and Credentialing Update

In response to providers' desire for additional core trainings, First Steps partnered with the Office of Early Childhood and Out of School Learning (OECOSL) to gain access to the Training Central Portal.

Training Central was created by Indiana Association for Child Care Resource and Referral (IACCRR) in partnership with OECOSL, to support early childhood programs and child care providers in obtaining high Paths to Quality designations.

Within the portal, First Steps has identified several trainings that may be used as a core training (FSCT).

1. Introduction to Trauma and Toxic Stress: Effects in Early Childhood
2. Using Screening Tools and Methods – Part 1
3. Infant Mental Health: Basic Concepts and Background
4. Using Interpersonal Methods: Relationship-Based Approach, Parallel Process, Professional Use of Self
5. How Trauma Affects Adults and Parenting Behaviors – Part 1
6. Using Screening Tools and Methods – Part 2
7. How Trauma Affects Adults and Parenting Behaviors – Part 2
8. Helping Parents Develop Skills that Support S/E Development in Babies
9. Determining and Developing Relationships with Referral Partners
10. Strengthening Your Skills in Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

In addition to the trainings that have been identified as core trainings, providers may also complete any additional training points.

To access Training Central, individuals should go to <https://www.iaccrr.org/default.cfm?page=training-central> and register for an account. When registering, you will use the category “early intervention provider”. All trainings are free of charge and provide users with a certificate upon training completion. Certificates for all trainings completed are stored in each user’s account under “My Certificates”.

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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 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 December 6, 2016 (Indianapolis) Register for trainings [here](#).

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

<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 103 Dates

- Tuesday November 15, 2016

Register for trainings [here](#).

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

All SC courses will take place at ProKids 6923 Hillsdale Ct. Indianapolis, IN 46250.

SC 103 is scheduled from 9:00am—4:00pm

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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 receive an email confirmation with the score of your newsletter quiz. You may print/save the page displaying your score. 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.

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Additional FSCT

First Steps is please to share with you an opportunity offered by Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health, Maternity and Newborn Program, the 2016 Training Series. Funded by the Riley Children's Foundation through a grant for the Riley Maternity and Newborn Health Initiative.

Please join us for a series of day long training events offered at multiple locations throughout the state! There are three different training sessions, and they are being offered free of charge. Special offer: If you attend ALL THREE sessions, you will receive a \$50 gift card! No CEUs will be offered, but all sessions will count as a First Steps Core Training (FSCT).

Locations are:

Indianapolis: [Pediplay, 6239 S East Street, Indianapolis, IN 46227](#)

Evansville: [Easter Seals Milestones Child Development Center, 621 S Cullen Ave, Evansville, IN 47715](#)

Ft. Wayne: [Allen County Public Library, 900 Library Plaza, Ft Wayne, IN 46802](#)

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/riley-maternity-newborn-2016-training-series-tickets-26376848865>

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Overview (IMH Overview)

The long term outcomes of early experiences are increasingly recognized. Development, behavior and adult functioning can be affected by experiences in early childhood. Foundational concepts in infant and early childhood mental health (parallel process, relationship-based work and reflective practice) will be discussed and applied to the work of home visitors. Development and behavior outcomes of NICU graduates and effects on parents and the parent-child relationships will be introduced.

Early Start Denver Model (ESDM)

Children who have spent time in a NICU may have different early experiences and have experienced a different early environment than children who were not in the NICU. In addition, premature children are at a higher risk for developmental delays and behavior difficulties, which can make parenting more challenging. The session provides an introduction to the use of the Early Start Denver Model (ESDM), an early intensive behavioral intervention (EIBI) based on ABA principles with young children that can be used with children who have had NICU experiences. This model focuses on enhancing play skills at a level that is appropriate for the child following an evaluation of play skills, social interactions, and communication. Case studies and active learning opportunities will give participants the opportunity to practice skills that are considered to be essential to both ABA and ESDM.

BABIES and PreSTEPS Introductory Training for Early Intervention Professionals (BABIES & PreSTEPS)

This one day introduction to the BABIES and PreSTEPS model will focus on evidence-based developmentally appropriate and relationship supportive approaches specific to newborns and young infants, and in particular, those with special health and developmental needs. The model addresses the following areas of infant behavior and development: **Body function;** **Arousal and sleep;** **Body movement;** **Interaction with others,** **Eating;** and **Soothing.** Participants will also be introduced to *PreSTEPS* (Browne and Talmi, 2007) which includes valuable information regarding effective and supportive strategies for working with families during the provision of early intervention services within natural environments: **Predictability and continuity;** **States and arousal;** **Timing and pacing;** **Environmental modifications;** **Positioning and handling;** and **Soothing.** This training is designed to introduce professionals to the skills needed to observe, identify and describe communication of the baby and the contributions of caregivers in support of the early relationship and the infant's development.

Articles for November 2016

Please read all articles before taking the newsletter quiz.

[COWs Want To Know What Coaching Looks Like, Too!](#)

By El Excellence, Julie Higgenbotham, Senior Case Coordinator

<http://www.eiexcellence.org/cows-want-know-coaching-looks-like/>



[Walking in Someone Else's Shoes: Supporting the Relationships among Parents, Therapists and Child Care Program Staff](#)

By El Excellence, Sherri Read, Service Coordinator

<http://www.eiexcellence.org/walking-someone-elses-shoes-supporting-relationships-among-parents-therapists-child-care-program-staff/>



[El for the Holidays! A Table Talk Wednesday Recap](#)

By El Excellence, Julie Higgenbotham, Senior Case Coordinator

<http://www.eiexcellence.org/ei-for-the-holidays-a-table-talk-wednesday-recap/>



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November 2016 Newsletter Quiz

Follow this link https://iu.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_9ztk82mPUOsXIFD 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.

The November 2016 Newsletter Quiz is worth .2 points when completed by **Monday January 2, 2017**.

Please be sure that you click through to the last page with your quiz results. You will 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		
<input type="radio"/> Social service programs that provide resources to a whole family		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Programs that provide resources to enable parents to successfully support themselves so they can provide a stable, enriching environment for their children		
<input type="radio"/> Programs that assist parents with finding a job to support their family		
<input type="radio"/> Counseling programs to help parents deal with family stressors		
<input type="radio"/> 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		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> True		
<input type="radio"/> False		

**Newsletter Quiz due by
Monday January 2, 2017**