

How To Reach US

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EI Website

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How to Reach

Provider Connections

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**Bureau of
Early Intervention**
217.782.1981

**EI Monitoring
Program**
800.507.5057

CBO Implements Billing Changes

Effective July 1, 2005, the Central Billing Office will administer all Early Intervention program requirements related to insurance including:

- Limited insurance benefit and eligibility verification.
- The review, approval and notification of status on insurance waiver and exemption requests.
- Most waivers will be generated **ONLY AFTER** initial billing of the insurance. (**The only exceptions are provider related waivers and travel related waivers for services rendered in center-based settings ONLY!**)
- Statewide regional trainings on new requirements.
- On-going technical assistance for providers on insurance related issues.

Billing Changes

All credentialed providers will be required to bill the family's private insurance prior to billing the Central Billing Office—**this includes Developmental Therapists** but does not include Parent Liaisons, interpreters,

deaf mentors or transportation providers.

For dates of service on or after July 1, 2005, providers must bill the CBO within 90 days of the date of service **or** within 90 days from the last communication from the insurance company.

All claims submitted to the CBO **MUST** specify a valid ICD-9 TREATMENT diagnosis code or they will be denied.

The CBO staff will hold a series of trainings to discuss the insurance billing changes.

Registration for the regional trainings is required. Space is limited and reserved on a first-come first-served basis.

To register, please visit www.illinoiseittraining.org.

For those who are unable to attend the regional trainings, there will be an on-line learning module to review the materials.

For more details visit:
www.EICBO.info

Regional Training Dates on the Billing Changes

May 6

Mt Vernon Convention & Visitors Bureau –
9 a.m. – 1pm

May 12

Springfield Dept of Agriculture
12pm – 4pm

May 17

State of Illinois Building
Downtown Chicago
9am – 12pm & 1pm – 5pm

May 18

UCP/Infinitic Southwest
Tinley Park
4pm – 8pm

To register for one of the regional trainings visit
www.illinoiseittraining.org

EI Training Program Website a One-Stop Search for Training, Links and Resources

"One-Stop Shopping" is a term we often see in advertisements. Not all the advertisers can support this claim. The Early Intervention (EI) Training Program's website, www.illinoiseittraining.org does offer providers a "One-Stop" link to the trainings they need to hold a credential in the Illinois EI System and to numerous other resources.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

The EI Training Program's Calendar of Upcoming Events lists the current schedule of workshops sponsored and presented by the Training Program with online registration available for most. This calendar is updated as events are added to the schedule and is the most current and complete source of Program training opportunities.

There are many learning opportunities available, both statewide and nationally, appropriate for Illinois Early Intervention continuing education that are not sponsored by the EI Training Program. At the request of the sponsoring organizations these events are also posted on this calendar. Online registration for these events is not available through the Training Program's website. If you are interested in attending one of these workshops/conferences you will need to contact the sponsoring agency for registration information.

All events listed on this calendar are approved for Illinois EI credentialing credit.

Past Approved for EI Credit

This option on the website offers an alphabetical or chronological listing of training events that have requested EI credit and have been given blanket approval. This list reflects those requests received by the Training Program since September of 2003. To receive credit for anything posted

on this list, participants must include proof of attendance when submitting their (re)credentialing application to Provider Connections.

Tips on using the Website

Due to the expanding menus on the website, the Training Program has added special features to make your "one stop" shopping a little easier.

Events can be searched by categories. The options for EI required trainings are:

- Systems Overview
- Evaluation and Assessment
- Service Coordination
- Parent Liaison
- Global Assessment

Events can also be searched by the EI core knowledge content areas:

- Child Development: Atypical or Typical
- Intervention
- Assessment
- Working with Families.

Another option is to search for a specific training by date or by title.

On-Line Learning

The website offers a link to Videos Approved for EI Credit. Providers can earn one contact hour by watching one of the approved videos and filling out the "Video Credit Request" form that can be downloaded from the website.

The Links Option

Through the Links Option website users have access to numerous early intervention resources. Currently, website users can link to 18 other agencies through the Training Program's website. Included are links to keep early interventionists current with the State System:

- DHS Bureau of Early Intervention
- Provider Connections,
- IL Technical Assistance and Monitoring Program
- EI Central Billing Office
- IL EI Clearinghouse

Informational links offer a variety of general early intervention resources as well as a guide to Early Childhood Degree and Certificate programs in the Illinois.

Training Program Updates

The Training Program utilizes e-mail technology to provide a fast and efficient method of passing along time-sensitive information. Registered users are part of an e-mail data base that enables the fast delivery of Illinois Early Intervention news and information. Training Program staff release periodic updates of information in an e-mail format. These e-mails are a convenient way to learn the latest information about Training Program news and events. Registered website users receive Illinois System news and information and information on trainings in a timely manner.

If you haven't already, log on to
www.illinoiseittraining.org.

Check it out and if you have a moment,
 let us know how we can make it better.

Provider Connections Corner

By Rob Derry
Provider Connections

SLPA Licensure Reminder

On December 23, 2004, Public Act 93-1060 became law. This law amends the Illinois Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Practice Act, in part, allowing a person with a bachelor's degree in communications disorder that meets the stated employment requirements to apply by July 1, 2005 for a license as a speech-language pathology assistant.

Early Intervention rule requires that individuals holding a Speech/Language Therapy Assistant credential have a current license in order to qualify for and maintain the credential. An exception to

this requirement is made for unlicensed individuals with a master in speech-language pathology who are participating in a supervised professional experience.

All Speech/Language Therapy Assistants, other than those with a master in speech-language pathology who are participating in a supervised professional experience, must have a current license as a speech-language pathology assistant on file with Provider Connections by June 30, 2005.

Assistants who do not provide this documentation will become inactive on July 1, 2005 and will be ineligible to provide Early Intervention services. Claims for services that were provided by uncredentialed individuals will not be paid.

Questions? Call

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Macomb, IL 61455

Phone: 800.701.0995

www.wiu.edu/providerconnections



Burke's Log

By Ted Burke,
Director
EI Training Program

Three proposals submitted by the Illinois Early Intervention Training Program have been accepted for presentation at DEC's 21st Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, to be held October 14-15, 2005 at the Hilton Portland and Executive Tower in Portland, Oregon.

The presentations are:

"Mentoring, Toss a Pebble In a Pond and Watch the Ripples Grow" developed and to be presented by Amy Cocorikis and Ted Burke. This presentation will offer an overview of the Illinois Mentor Program and

how other entities could utilize mentoring to impact personnel preparation and quality service provision.

"Parents As Leaders In Early Intervention: The Time Is Now!" developed and to be presented by Joan Debelak, Chelsea Guillen and Ted Burke. The presentation will offer the Illinois Early Intervention Parents As Leaders (EIPALS) project as a model for parent involvement and skill-building that offers targeted strategies to parents/caregivers who have young children with special needs.

"A Model of Personnel Preparation for Early Interventionists" developed by Ted Burke, Amy Cocorikis and Joan Debelak. This presentation will highlight the model used by Illinois to prepare those who work with the birth to three population. Focusing on parents partners in development and presentation, we will show multiple formats of training delivery including vid-

eos, CDs, web-based resources, case method of instruction, reflective supervision and mentorship opportunities.

This will be a great opportunity for us to showcase Illinois' effort in early intervention on the national state, side-by-side with the recognized experts in the field. My congratulations go out to Amy, Joan and Chelsea for their work being recognized by the nation's leaders in the early intervention field.

Don't forget the EI Regional Conference on July 19th and 20th

We still have some spots open for our regional conference that will be held July 19th and 20th at the Keller Convention Center in Effingham.

The registration fee is \$40. Check our website for a complete list of sessions and speakers. We hope to see you there.

EI System Looks At Social Emotional Development With The ASQ-SE

The Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ) are screening tools developed by Jane Squires, Diane Bricker, and Elizabeth Twombly to be used by providers or parents in looking at the development of young children, ages birth to 5. There is a specific set of questionnaires that focus on development and another set that focuses specifically on the social-emotional aspects of a child's development.

The Illinois Early Intervention System is using the ASQ: Social Emotional (ASQ-SE) Screening Tool as part of the Intake process. A majority of the staff at the Child & Family Connections (CFC) offices have already been trained in this tool as part of the two-day Social-Emotional trainings that are held across the state. The goal is for all CFC staff to have completed the two-day social emotional training by June 30, 2005.

Squires, Bricker and Twombly note that this ASQ-SE was developed in response to IDEA (1997) which requires the measurement of social and emotional competence because of requests from the field and a belief that parents can be accurate assessors of their child's behavior. In looking at social competence, the authors note that this tool looks at "an array of behaviors that permits one to develop and engage in positive interactions with peers, siblings, parent and other

adults." Emotional competences relates to a person's "ability to effectively regulate emotions to accomplish one's goals."

The ASQ:SE consists of eight questionnaires that would be used at age of intervals of 6 months, 12 months, 18, 24, 30, 36 48 and 60 months. Questions in the screening tool are written at a 5th-6th grade reading level and are available in Spanish as well as English. The behavioral areas addressed in the ASQ-SE are compliance, communication, adaptive functioning, autonomy, affect and interaction.

The responses to the question are "most of the time," "sometimes," "never or rarely." Parents can also check a separate column if they are concerned about a particular behavior. Each questionnaire also has two or three questions that ask the parent to comment on their child's overall behavior. The open-ended questions are not scored, but are evaluated as part of the screening process.

Several options are considered once the screening is scored. The CFC staff works closely with their social-emotional consultant(s) in determining what the next step might be. The ASQ-SE helps in gathering information about a child's social-emotional development and help guide referral decisions.

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