

Illinois Early Intervention Extended Services

Early Intervention Extended Services will be available for eligible Early Intervention Families

New legislation goes into effect in
January of 2022, applies to children with
May 1 through August 31 birthdays
and provides eligible families the option to extend
Illinois Early Intervention (EI) services
past the child's third birthday.

Who is eligible?

To qualify for Early Intervention Extended Services (EI/ES), the child must:

- > be determined eligible for early intervention, and have an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)
- have their third birthday between May 1 and August 31
- ➤ be found eligible for an Individualized Education Program (IEP) This <u>link</u> includes details regarding Early Childhood Special Education eligibility. (Link: https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Parent-Guide-Special-ED-Aug20.pdf)

What are our options?

Eligible families who wish to participate in educational services after their child turns three will be presented with two options:

- > Option one allows for families to continue with the services on their IFSP through the summer months with their current EI provider(s) and then begin early childhood special education services at the beginning of the school year following the child's third birthday.
- > Option two allows families to exit early intervention and begin early childhood special education services through their local school district as of the implementation date listed on their IEP.

NOTE: Once a family exits early intervention after their child reaches age 3, they cannot re-enter the early intervention system under the Early Intervention Extended Services option.

When and how will this change?

This legislation will permanently go into effect for children with qualifying summer birthdays beginning in 2022. This <u>link</u> will take you to the legislation. (Link:

https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/102/SB/10200SB0820sam002.htm)

Where can families go to get more information about their options for transition?

- Contact your Child and Family Connections Office
- Contact the Early Intervention Clearinghouse for resources (https://eiclearinghouse.org/)
- Contact your Parent Training and Information Center to talk to other parents about this decision:
 - o Family Resource Center on Disabilities which serves the Chicagoland area (www.frcd.org)
 - Family Matters which serves the rest of the state (https://www.fmptic.org/)