

Early Support for Infants & Toddlers (ESIT)

Washington State's Part C of IDEA Program

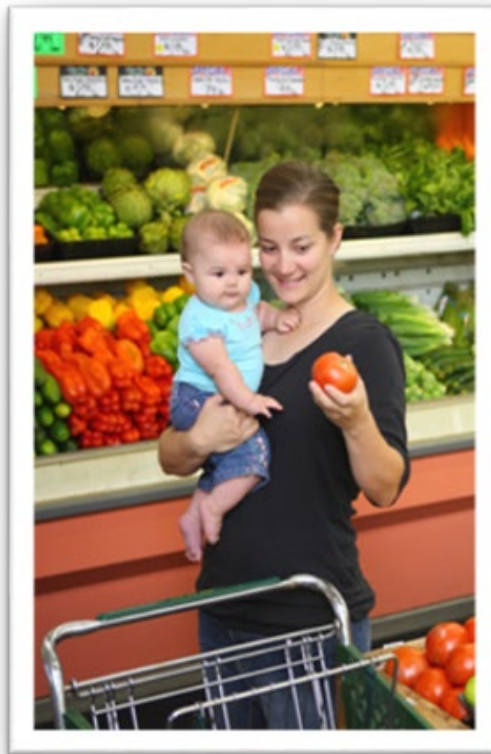
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Administrator



Our Mission

The purpose of the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers Program is to build upon family strengths by providing coordination, supports, resources, and services to enhance the development of children with developmental delays and disabilities through everyday learning opportunities.



Goals of Part C

- Enhance the development of infants & toddlers with disabilities
- Minimize the potential for developmental delay
- Reduce future educational costs
- Enhance the capacity of families to meet the special needs of their infants & toddlers with disabilities



Federal Requirements

- All infants and toddlers eligible for the program must be served.
- Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs) must be developed and implemented for each child and their family.
- All of the services a child is eligible for must be provided in accordance with the IFSP.
- The full array of early intervention services must be available statewide.

What funding streams are directly administered by DCYF?

Three (3) funding streams are *directly administered* by DCYF including:

- IDEA Part C Federal Funds,
- State Special Education Funds, and
- State Education Legacy Transfer Account (ELTA) Funds.

Who administers the local early intervention system?

- There are four County Lead Agencies (CLAs) established in King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Spokane counties.
- There are twenty-four (24) non-CLA affiliated Early Intervention Provider Agencies under direct contract with DCYF.
- There are two Tribal Part C Programs in Washington.



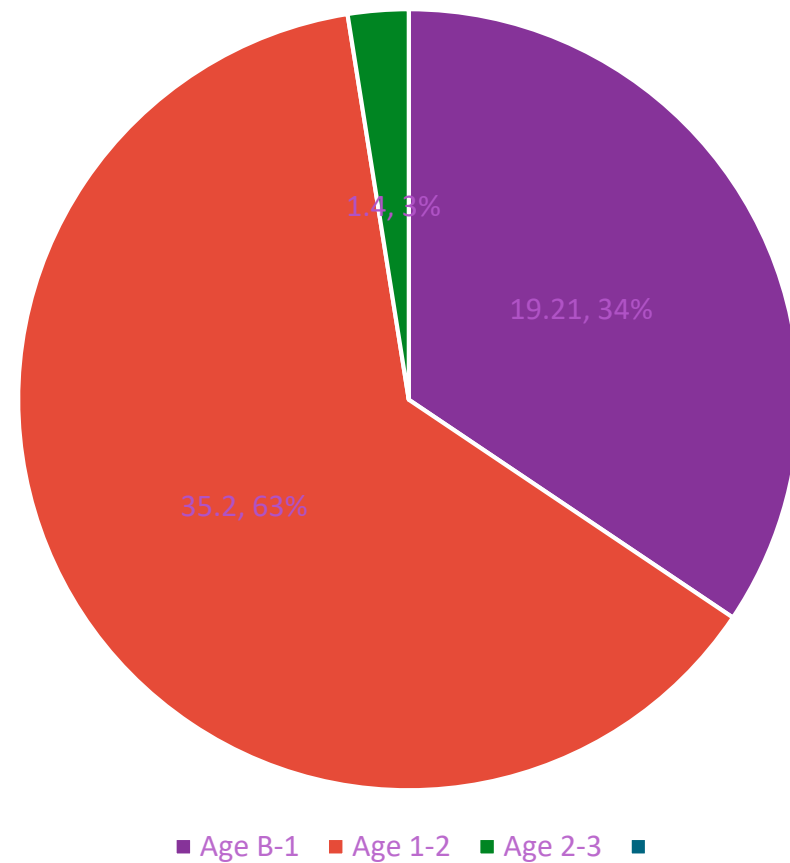
Washington's Part C Eligibility

- A child is eligible if he or she demonstrates a delay of 1.5 standard deviations or 25% of chronological age delay in one or more developmental areas (Physical (*including vision, hearing, fine or gross motor*), Cognitive, Communication, Social or Emotional, and Adaptive);

or
- Has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay such as Downs syndrome

Who is Being Served?

Demographics by Eligible Age



Demographics by Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	% of ESIT
American Indian/Alaska Native	>1%
Asian	8%
Black/African American	5%
Hispanic/Latino	22%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	1%
Two or more races	8%
White	55%

What Services are Provided?

Family-centered services are provided to young children ages birth through two (not yet three) with developmental delays and/or disabilities based on eligibility criteria.



Primary early intervention services include:

- Family resources coordination,
- Developmental services,
- Occupational or physical therapy,
- Speech/language therapy,
- Psychological, social services, and other related services



ESIT Guiding Principles

1. Families are equal partners on the team
2. Family relationships are the central focus in the life of an infant or toddler
3. Infants and toddlers learn best through everyday experiences
4. Early intervention services are individualized
5. All families can enhance their children's learning and development
6. Services are based on child and family needs and priorities
7. Early intervention practices must be based on current evidence and research



Natural Environments

CFR 303.126 Early intervention services in natural environments.

Each system must include policies and procedures to ensure, consistent with §§303.13(a)(8) (early intervention services), 303.26 (natural environments), and 303.344(d)(1)(ii) (content of an IFSP), that early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities are provided—

- (a) To the maximum extent appropriate, in natural environments; and
- (b) In settings other than the natural environment that are most appropriate, as determined by the parent and the IFSP Team, only when early intervention services cannot be achieved satisfactorily in a natural environment.

Subpart C—State Application and Assurances

Last modified on May 3, 2017



Natural Environments



“Providing early intervention services in the natural environment allows the child and family to learn new strategies, using the child’s toys and surroundings, to develop and grow. Services in natural environments also help the family or other caregivers learn how to include the child in the community” - Pacer Center 2020



Measuring Outcomes

Child Outcomes:

- Demonstration of positive social-emotional skills, including social relationships
- Acquire and use knowledge and skills including early language, communication, and early literacy
- Use appropriate behaviors to get their needs met

Family Outcomes:

- Families know their rights
- Families can effectively communicate their child's needs
- Families can help their child develop and learn



Questions?

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