

TO BE RESCINDED

3701-8-02

Participant eligibility, services and reporting requirements.

- (A) The purpose of Ohio early start is to provide services to eligible children that are extremely vulnerable infants or toddlers whose environmental, family or health circumstances place them at very high risk for abuse, neglect, environmental difficulties or later school failure.
- (B) To be eligible to participate in Ohio early start, a child shall be under three years of age, shall be at significant developmental risk, and shall reside in a county participating in Ohio early start. The service coordinator shall document each risk factor that places the eligible child at significant developmental risk before the child begins Ohio early start direct services.
- (C) The parents of an eligible child may determine whether they, their child, or other family members will accept or decline any direct services offered, and may at any time decline or discontinue such a service after first accepting it without jeopardizing other early start services.
- (D) Counties selected to receive funds shall begin implementing Ohio early start on January 1, 1996. Each county shall annually review the county's participant list and assure that funds are used to provide direct services for eligible participants in accordance with Chapter 3701-8 of the Administrative Code, the county's performance agreement or grant application and in accordance with state and federal law. The county shall enroll and serve at least the percentage of eligible children in the county as determined by the director on an annual basis.
- (E) Ohio early start funds shall be used as a source of funds of last resort and shall further be used as follows:
- (1) To plan, develop and implement in accordance with the county's performance agreement or grant application a county-wide, comprehensive system of services for eligible children, including cross-system training for service providers.
 - (2) To pay for direct services provided that those services are not already paid for by other public or private sources.
 - (3) To expand and improve on existing services already provided by other public or private sources.
- (F) Each county shall assure that upon enrollment into and exit from Ohio early start, the immunization status of each child is determined, the child's source of primary

health care is determined, and the child's provider or providers of early start services have a protocol in place for assessing the basic health and developmental status of the enrolled child. Each county shall also assure that the home inventory scale, ages and stages questionnaire ("ASQ"), and/or the denver developmental screening test II ("DDSTII") is completed for each child within three months of enrollment and again by twelve months after enrollment in Ohio early start. As used in this rule, "enrollment" means the date a child is determined eligible to participate in Ohio early start.

- (G) Each county shall assure that an individualized family service plan is developed and implemented for each child and his or her family within forty five days of enrollment in Ohio early start. The individualized family service plan shall focus on intervention and prevention services, shall incorporate child and family goals and self-sufficiency planning, and shall incorporate mechanisms to increase coordination across agencies and services. The individualized family service plan shall be completed on the form endorsed by the Ohio interagency early intervention council and approved by the department of health and shall contain the name of the person responsible as service coordinator for the child and that child's family. The plan shall incorporate referral, transition and discharge strategies to assure continuity of services and shall incorporate the use of formal and informal community support services for enrolled children and their families.
- (H) A service coordinator shall possess a professional degree in social work, nursing, early childhood education or a related discipline. A service coordinator shall also possess demonstrated knowledge and understanding about infants, toddlers, and families that are eligible for Ohio early start, Chapter 3701-8 of the Administrative Code, the nature and scope of services available to children and families in the state of Ohio, and the available sources of payments for identified services. Each county shall assure that service coordinators receive administrative supervision and a minimum of eight hours of clinical supervision a month.
- (I) Each county shall assure that purposeful home visits are conducted in the homes of enrolled children and families in accordance with the "policy guidance on Ohio early start: core services" issued by the department of health. Home visits shall be conducted by trained, highly skilled degreed professional or professional/para-professional teams who receive administrative supervision and a minimum of eight hours of clinical supervision a month.
- (J) Each county shall annually submit a summary report to the department outlining in aggregate, the accomplishment of goals, objectives, and outcome measures as specified in the county's performance agreement or grant application. Each county shall further submit data reports in a format required by the department on a quarterly basis or on a more frequent basis as required by the department. Quarterly reports shall be received by the department no later than the fifteenth day of the

month following the quarter's end.

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Certification

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Date

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