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Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) Program Update

**Early Childhood Intervention
Advisory Committee Meeting
January 25, 2023**

ECI Program Update



- Quarterly data
- Training and outreach
- New qualifying medical diagnosis
- Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Early Intervention Personnel Retention Grant project
- Staff safety and retention workgroup
- State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)
- Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) funded initiatives
- Preschool Development Grant (PDG)
- Legislative update



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Quarterly Data

Children Referred and Served



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	SFY 2019	SFY 2020	SFY 2021	SFY 2022	SFY 2023 Q1
Average Monthly Referrals	7,350	6,604	7,193	7,848	7,403
Average Monthly Unduplicated Eligibility Determination	4,334	3,746	3,872	4,189	4,100
Average Monthly Enrolled	28,687	28,519	27,860	30,835	32,056
Average Monthly Comprehensive Served	31,433	31,285	30,516	33,732	35,047
Cumulative Quarterly/Average Annual Total Clients Served (unduplicated)	60,596	59,234	60,204	65,584	41,053

Delivered Services and Evaluations



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	SFY 2019	SFY 2020	SFY 2021	SFY 2022	SFY 2023 Q1
Average Monthly Delivered Service Hours (not parent-arranged)	85,979	74,845	70,999	74,954	77,156
Average Service Hours Per Child Per Month	2.73	2.39	2.33	2.22	2.22
Average Monthly Service Coordination (SC)/Targeted Case Management (TCM) Hours	12,891	11,358	6,052	7,970	9,428
Average Monthly SC/TCM Hours Per Child Per Month	0.66	0.63	0.54	0.57	0.76
Average Monthly Initial Comprehensive Evaluations	4,149	3,607	3,735	2,421	4,126



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Training and Outreach

Training

- Revamp of the *Making it Work* training module is nearing completion.
- Series for Meaningful Interagency Learning and Education (SMILE) webinars:
 - November 2022: *Learn the Signs Act Early and Updated Milestones*
 - December 2022: *Equipping Families with Early Childhood Resources*
 - January 2023: *Partners Resource Network*



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Conferences

Recently attended:

- Texas Occupational Therapy Association Conference in Denton on November 11, 2022.

Upcoming conferences:

- Central Texas African American Family Support Conference in Austin on February 7-8, 2023.
- Texas Speech-Language and Hearing Association Conference in Austin on February 23-25, 2023.



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Publication Updates

- *How's Your Baby* and growth chart revised with updated developmental milestones checklist.




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How's Your Baby?
Developmental Checklist



Early Childhood Intervention helps families with children who have developmental delays or disabilities



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¿Cómo se encuentra su bebé?
Lista de verificación de los hitos del desarrollo



Intervención Temprana en la Infancia (ECI) ofrece ayuda a las familias con niños que tienen retrasos en el desarrollo o discapacidades



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53 — Watch Me Grow!

My name is _____
My birthday is _____
My birth weight was _____
My birth length was _____

Place bottom of chart 18 inches from the floor. Following each of your child's physical checkups, record the date by the inch mark that best indicates your child's height. Once your child is standing, be sure to place the chart on a wall where the child can easily stand and share in the recording of his or her growth.

30–36 Months

- Join other children in play
- Use at least 200 words
- Avoid touching hot objects when warned
- Use a fork
- Talk well enough for others to understand most of the time
- Put on loose clothing by themselves
- Imitate you drawing a circle



24–30 Months

- Use and understand at least 50 words
- Play next to other children and sometimes play with them
- Turn pages in a book one at a time
- Take off loose clothing
- Follow two-step directions like "Put your diaper in the trash and get your shoes."
- Jump with both feet off the ground
- Use two or three words together, like "More cookie" or "Doggie run"



52 —
51 —
50 —
49 —
48 —
47 —
46 —
45 —

Child Find Self-Assessment

- Final CFSA report will be shared with all ECI Advisory Committee members for input.
- HHSC will:
 - Provide regular updates to the Advisory Committee and stakeholders.
 - Continue work on initiatives that support the improvements to child find.



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New Qualifying Medical Diagnoses

Qualifying Medical Diagnoses

- Medical panel convened in September 2022 to review diagnoses proposed to be included as an automatic qualifier.
- The following diagnoses were added on January 9, 2023:
 - P07.14 and P07.15 – Other low birth weight of a newborn
 - Q98.5 – Karyotype 47, XYY Chromosome Syndrome
 - Deletion of Long Arm Chromosome 12*

*No diagnosis code assigned





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OSEP Early Intervention Personnel Retention Grant

Grant Activities

- The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) has developed a survey to solicit input from ECI personnel across the state to determine the effectiveness of the grant activities so far, and for research purposes.
- Plans are underway for the second Personnel Retention Summit which will be in late March or early April 2023.



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Contractor-level Implementation

- ECI contractors eligible for stipends in Grant Year 3 were notified and asked to complete a retention plan to show planned activities, the intended impact on personnel retention, and the method for measuring success.
- Some common examples of activities include:
 - Hosting team building and staff recognition events.
 - Providing professional development opportunities.
 - Attending career fairs at universities.



Professionalism Engagement Empowerment Resources (PEER) Network

- UTEP is analyzing responses from a survey designed to measure engagement and impact from those participating in the PEER Network.
- PEER Network meetings for the coming year have been scheduled and include topics like writing Individualized Family Service Plan goals and ethics.
- The ECI state office team is exploring enhancements, such as PEER Network certificates and the use of a virtual platform for member sharing between meetings.



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Staff Safety and Retention

Staff Safety and Retention Workgroup

- Met four times to discuss needs for promoting staff safety and retention.
- Developed recommendations at final meeting on January 4, which include:
 - ECI personnel tip sheet to provide technical assistance for service provision outside of typical business hours.
 - ECI contract amendment to clarify and strengthen language regarding typical business hours.



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State Systemic Improvement Plan

SSIP

- The final follow-up groups for master coach training started in October 2022 and will end in April 2023.
- ECI is updating its evaluation plan and theory of action to reflect current initiatives and identify further opportunities to enhance coaching skills.
- ECI project manager and workgroups are preparing for the Federal Fiscal Year 2021 SSIP submission due February 1, 2023.



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Texas Workforce Commission Funded Initiatives

TWC Project



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- The new inclusion training, *Planning and Creating Inclusive Early Childhood Classrooms*, is under review.
- Participating local ECI programs continue to offer training to child care center staff.
- The first of eight *Ages and Stages Questionnaire Training of Trainers* seminars is January 24-26.
 - 100 ECI providers and 100 Texas Rising Star Members will participate in these trainings.
- Regional trainings are in the planning stages. Trainings are planned for spring and summer 2023.



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Preschool Development Grant

PDG Award

- PDG empowers state governments to lead the way in leveraging federal, state, and local early care and education investments while developing and improving their comprehensive, statewide birth through five early childhood care and education system.
- Texas was awarded \$16 million for calendar year 2023.
- For year 1, ECI will receive \$4.5 million for:
 - Staff travel for grant-related conferences.
 - Incentives to recruit, retain, and mentor therapists.
 - Supporting ECI services with the post-COVID boom in caseload.



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Legislative Update

88th Legislature, Regular Session

To keep up with projected caseload growth, HHSC is requesting additional funding as an exceptional item.

\$ in Millions	FY24	FY25	Biennium
General Revenue	\$24.8	\$31.8	\$56.6
All Funds	\$29.1	\$37.2	\$66.3



Bills with Significant Impact for ECI

- House Bill (HB) 44
- HB 62
- HB 211
- HB 272
- HB 593
- HB 1288
- Senate Bill (SB) 303
- SB 304
- SB 308



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Important Dates

- Deadline for bill filing: March 10, 2023
- Sine die*: May 29, 2023



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*Adjournment with no definite date or period to resume.



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Thank You

**Meghan Young, Director
Early Childhood Intervention**