

7. You have the right to file a written complaint.

The quickest way to resolve a concern is to talk with your EI Service Coordinator or their supervisor. If that does not work, you can contact EI staff at the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities at (614) 466-6879 or ei@dodd.ohio.gov.

You can file a signed written complaint. Complaints should be mailed to:

Early Intervention
Ohio Department of
Developmental Disabilities
30 East Broad Street, 12th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

The complaint will be investigated and you will get a response within 60 calendar days. While the complaint is being investigated, your child can continue to receive EI services.

8. You have the right to mediation or a due process hearing.

Another way to settle disagreements is to ask for mediation or a due process hearing.

Mediation lets you and EI program staff talk about the details of your disagreement with a neutral, trained mediator. The mediator will work with you and your program to find a solution that works for both of you. The State will pay the cost of the mediator.

A due process hearing is a more formal process conducted in front of an impartial hearing officer. Parents can hire an attorney to represent them at a due process hearing, but this is not required. The State will pay the cost of the hearing officer.

My Service Coordinator:

Email/Phone:

Early Intervention is a program that supports families with children from birth through age two.

EI teams work with families to identify possible areas of delay in their child's development.

EI teams help families to enhance their child's learning and development through everyday routines familiar to their child.

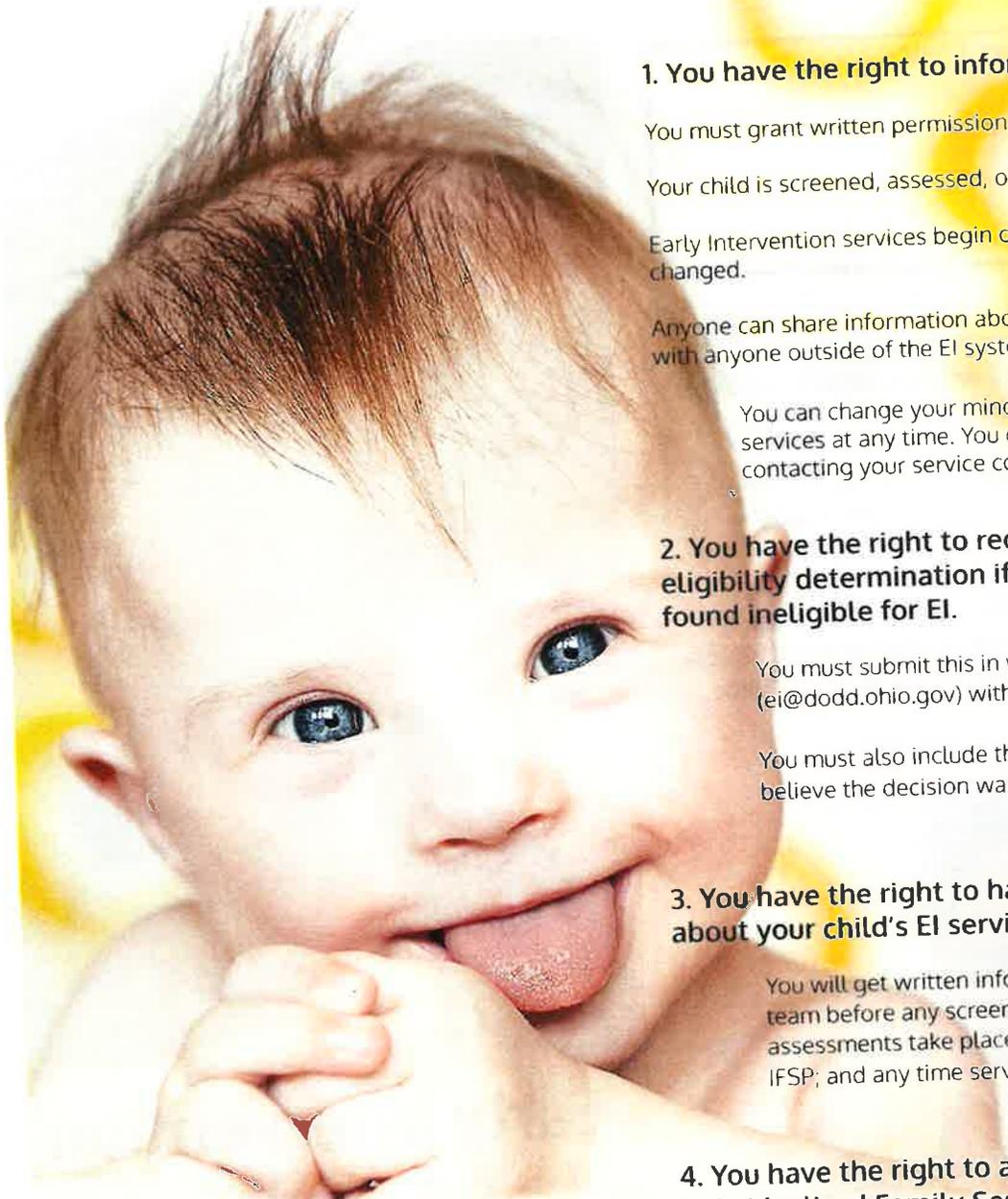


Ohio | Department of
Developmental Disabilities



Early Intervention Parent Rights

Ohio | Department of
Developmental Disabilities



1. You have the right to informed consent.

You must grant written permission before:

Your child is screened, assessed, or evaluated.

Early Intervention services begin or are changed.

Anyone can share information about your child with anyone outside of the EI system.

You can change your mind about any of the services at any time. You can do this by contacting your service coordinator.

2. You have the right to request a new eligibility determination if your child was found ineligible for EI.

You must submit this in writing to DODD (ei@dodd.ohio.gov) within 45 days.

You must also include the reasons you believe the decision was incorrect.

3. You have the right to have information about your child's EI services in writing.

You will get written information from your EI team before any screenings, evaluations, or assessments take place; anytime there is an IFSP; and any time services change.

4. You have the right to an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).

A written plan is called an IFSP and is developed by you and your team to record your priorities and concerns about your child's development within your everyday activities and routines.

An IFSP lists the services that will best help reach desired outcomes and it describes when, where, and how services will be given and paid for.

You can choose to reject some services without affecting other early intervention services.

You may invite anyone you wish to your family's IFSP meeting (for example, another family member or trusted friend).

An IFSP meeting cannot take place without you.

The IFSP is reviewed every six months, or sooner if needed.

IFSP meetings occur at a time and place that works for you.

You will receive a written or electronic copy of your IFSP.

5. You have the right to have EI services in natural environments.

Natural environments are places where children live, learn and play, and also include children's routines, or what children do, as they participate in their everyday life at home and in their community.

6. You have the right to keep information about your family private.

You have the right to see your child's records at any time.

Personally identifiable information that would identify you or your family will not be shared with people outside of the EI system unless you say it is ok.

Early Intervention is sometimes called EI.

As a parent of a child connected with EI services, you have rights listed in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or IDEA.