VA Early Intervention eLearning Center
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VA Early Intervention Certification Courses

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To ensure a well-trained, qualified workforce, all early intervention (EI) practitioners in Virginia must be granted initial certification before providing EI services to children and families. Practitioners must meet discipline-specific qualifications and complete the required Virginia Early Intervention Certification Modules prior to applying for initial certification. These modules are organized into a series of five Initial Certification courses. These courses include:

- *Overview: Mission and Key Principles of Early Intervention*
- *The Early Intervention Process*
- *Effective Practices for Implementing Early Intervention*
- *Responsibilities of Early Intervention Practitioners*
- *Child Development*

Service coordinators must complete the Initial Certification courses plus an additional module, *The Many Facets of Service Coordination*. The total time to complete the courses required for all practitioners is 14 hours (16 hours for service coordinators).

Local system managers must complete all of the certification modules plus the supervision course, which is currently being revised. It is highly recommended that other supervisors complete these modules as well.

Course	Module	Who Must Complete
Overview: Mission and Key Principles of Early Intervention *This course includes one module which covers the mission and seven key principles of Part C early intervention, including what each principle looks like and does not look like.* Time to complete: 1 hour	*Course includes one module with the same title and description.*	All practitioners Local system managers
The Early Intervention Process *This course includes two modules: Ben's Journey through the Early Intervention Process and Writing Functional IFSP Outcomes and Goals. In the first module, you will learn about the early intervention process by following Ben's family from initial referral through transition. The second module focuses on tips and strategies for well-written outcomes and goals.* Time to complete: 3 hours	**Ben's Journey through the Early Intervention Process** *This module provides information about the EI process, from referral through transition, by following one family's journey.* **Writing Functional IFSP Outcomes and Goals** *This module addresses key characteristics, rules of thumb, and a format to use to ensure that outcomes and goals are well-written.*	All practitioners Local system managers

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Effective Practices for Implementing Early Intervention *This course includes three modules which address effective practices for implementing evidence-based early intervention (EI). The modules cover: 1) family-centered practices, 2) providing EI in everyday routines and activities, and 3) supporting caregiver learning during EI visits.* Time to complete: 3 hours	**Family-Centered Practices in Early Intervention** *This module defines family-centered practices, addresses characteristics of practitioners who use these practices, and emphasizes the importance of positive relationships and using cultural awareness and sensitivity with families.*	All practitioners Local system managers
	Early Intervention in Everyday Routines and Activities *In this module, EI service delivery is described and illustrated within the context of natural environments and families' daily routines.*	
	Supporting Caregiver Learning during Early Intervention Visits *This module addresses the importance of considering the caregiver's learning when providing effective early intervention. Five adult learning principles are applied and five characteristics of coaching are reviewed as tools to facilitate caregiver learning.*	
Responsibilities of Early Intervention Practitioners *This course includes four modules which cover essential responsibilities of all early intervention practitioners. Topics include: teaming and collaboration, confidentiality and professional boundaries, safety, abuse and neglect, contact note documentation and procedural safeguards.* Time to complete: 5 hours	**Teaming & Collaboration** *This module covers the importance of teaming and collaboration, identifies types of teams, and describes key characteristics of effective early intervention teams.*	All practitioners Local system managers
	Professional Responsibilities *This module addresses the following topics: child abuse and neglect; confidentiality and professional boundaries; and safety.*	
	EI Documentation *This module reviews the contact note checklist, seven rules for writing contact notes and key points for writing service coordination and service session contact notes. Examples and requirements for writing contact notes are also included.*	
	Procedural Safeguards *This module reviews the thirteen rights and safeguards described in Part C of IDEA (2004) and how to use the* Notice of Child and Family Rights and Procedural Safeguard	

	Including Facts about Family Cost Share *document. Examples of completed procedural safeguard forms are provided. Information and practical tips for both service coordinators and service providers are provided.*	
Child Development *This course includes one module which reviews infant and toddler development, ages birth to 36 months, in the following areas: cognition, communication, motor, social-emotional, and adaptive.* Time to complete: 2 hours	*Course includes one module with the same title and description.*	All practitioners Local system managers
The Many Facets of Service Coordination *This course includes one module which addresses the requirements and responsibilities of service coordination and the service coordinator's role in ensuring team collaboration, coordinating and monitoring EI service delivery, and accessing community resources. Fiscal responsibilities are also covered.* Time to complete: 2 hours		Service coordinators only Local system managers