## EARLY CHILDHOOD OUTCOMES

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# The Goal of Early Childhood Special Education

...to enable young children to be active and successful participants during the early childhood years and in the future in a variety of settings – in their homes with their families, in child care, in preschool or school programs and in the community

(from the Early Childhood Outcomes Center)

# Early Childhood Outcomes - Background

- Why Are We Doing This?
  - High quality services for children and families that will lead to good outcomes
  - Federal mandate
- Driving Force for Data on Child Goals Comes from the Federal Level
  - Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)
  - Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART)
  - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

# OSEP Reporting Requirements: The Outcomes

- Positive social emotional skills (including positive social relationships)
- Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/communication and early literacy)
- Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs

# Outcome 1-Children Have Positive Social Relationships

#### Involves:

- Relating with adults
- Relating with other children
- For older children, following rules related to groups or interacting with others

#### Could include:

- Attachment/separation/autonomy
- Learning rules and expectations
- Social interactions and play

# Outcome 2-Children Acquire and Use Knowledge and Skills

#### Involves

- Thinking and reasoning
- Remembering
- Problem solving
- Using symbols and language
- Understanding physical and social worlds

#### Includes

- Early concepts-symbols, pictures, numbers
- Imitation
- Object permanence
- Expressive language and communication
- Early literacy

# Outcome 3-Children Take Appropriate Action to Meet their Needs

#### Involves

- Taking care of basic needs
- Getting from place to place
- Using tools (fork, toothbrush, crayon)
- In older children, contributing to their own health/safety

#### Includes

- Integrating motor skills to complete tasks
- Self-help tasks (e.g., dressing, eating, grooming, toileting, household responsibility
- Acting on the world to get what one wants

## Who is Included in Early Childhood Outcomes?

- "ALL CHILDREN" Include every child who receives early childhood special education (ESCE) services with an IEP for whom the district is responsible
  - Irrespective of the type of IEP
  - Irrespective of where the child receives services
  - This includes children receiving Speech and Language services only

#### What Process is Used in Illinois?

- Team process the team …
  - Represents the gathering of information from those familiar with the child in a variety of contexts
  - Is comprised of two or more of the above who meet to
  - Complete the rating scale
  - Select the outcome indicator
  - Uses a systematic process for making decisions

#### Including Parents in the Discussion

- Parent input about the child's functioning is critical
  - Family members see the child in situations that professionals do not
  - Need to ask family members about what the child does at home
- The team will need a way to learn what family members know about the child
- There is no expectation that parents will be able to determine whether what they are seeing is age appropriate

#### When to Develop Entry Ratings

- After it is determined that a child qualifies for special education services the IEP team, including parent or information from the parent, can review all the information that was presented to determine the entry ratings.
- ☐ Or the IEP team, with parents, participate in a ratings meeting after the completion of the initial IEP meeting
- ☐ At Entry to ECSE. The "Entry Rating" is mandatory before the student's enrollment is exited.

### Timing of Ratings

- Every year between February 1 and July 31.
- ☐ Upon exiting enrollment in ECSE services, an Early Childhood Outcomes Progress Rating will be required if the last rating is more than six months old.
- ☐ The ECO ratings may be submitted to SIS at any time the student is enrolled.

## Rating Scale Descriptors

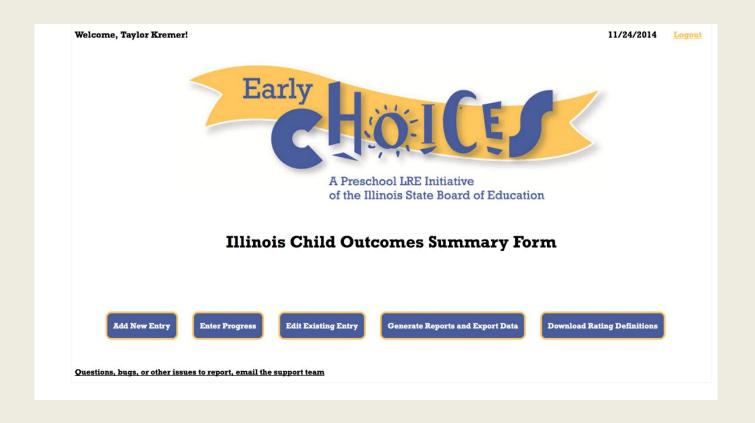
- Age expected skills
- Immediate foundational skills
- Foundational skills



#### **Decision Tree for Summary Rating Discussions** Does the child ever function in ways that would be considered ageappropriate with regard to this outcome? Yes (consider rating 4-7) No (consider rating 1-3) Is the child's functioning age-appropriate across all or Does the child use any immediate foundational skills related to this almost all settings and situations? outcome upon which to build age-appropriate functioning across settings and situations? No Yes No Yes To what extent is the child's Does anyone have concerns about To what extent is the child using the child's functioning with regard to immediate foundational skills functioning age-appropriate across settings and situations? the outcome area? across settings and situations? Occasional Uses a mix Occasional use Uses skills that Uses immediate use of ageof ageare not yet of immediate foundational skills appropriate appropriate most or all of the immediate foundational and not ageskills: more time across settings foundational skills No behavior appropriate Yes and situations behaviors that is not and skills ageacross appropriate settings and situations Rating = 7 Rating = 6 Rating = 5 Rating = 1 Rating = 2 Rating = 3 Rating = 4

1/11/201

# There's an App for this: Ec-ecotool.com, User's Guide at eclre.org



## Child Outcome Summary Form Generated

Name:	Smith	Susie		Male	Female X DOB: 08/1
	Last	First	Middle		SIS ID:
District:	Rockfor	d SD 205		School:	
	(3)	Persons	Involved in Decid	ing Summary Ratin	gs - Role/Title
Last Na	ame:	Firs	t Name:	Middle Name:	Role:
Smith		John	n		Family/Caretaker
Jones		Sara	ah		Coordinator, LEA Representative or Admir
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## Key Elements of COS

- Evidence
- Sources
- Special Considerations
- Progress Rating Question Yes/No

#### The Question at Entry:

For each of the 3 outcome areas, to what extent does this child show age appropriate functioning, across a variety of settings and situations, for this outcome?

## The Questions at Progress Rating:

- In each of the 3 outcome areas, to what extent does this child show age appropriate functioning, across a variety of settings and situations, for this outcome?
- Has the child shown ANY new skills or behaviors related to this outcome since the entry rating?
  - Independent of Rating
  - Default "no" in systems

# Essential Knowledge for Completing the Child Outcome Summary form

- Between them, team members must:
  - Know about the child's functioning across settings and situations
  - Understand age expected child development
  - Understand the content of the three child outcomes
  - Know how to use the rating scale
  - Understand age expectations for child functioning within the child's culture

#### **Primary Assessments**

- Primary Assessments for Progress Reporting are listed on the form and one must be used to help develop the ratings.
- Ages and Stages Questionnaire can only be used for speech only students
- The Primary Assessments are broad based looking at the "whole" child.

#### ASSESSMENT DECISION MAKING

- Allowable Assessments
  - Assessment and Evaluation Programming System
  - Carolina Curriculum for Infants and Toddlers/Preschoolers with Special Needs
  - High Scope Child Observation Record
  - Hawaii Early Learning Profile
  - Transdisciplinary Play-Based Assessment
  - The Work Sampling System
  - Teaching Strategies GOLD
  - Early Learning Scales
  - Ages and Stages Questionnaire (Speech Only)

#### Crosswalks

- Display how assessment instrument content relates to the outcomes
- Helps to determine areas in which additional information will need collected
- Not to be used as a checklist or score sheet
- http://ectacenter.org/eco/pages/crosswalks.asp#Crosswalk
  <u>s</u>

#### Multiple Measures and Sources

- If Outcome areas are not adequately addressed in the assessment tool, then use information from other sources to fill in the blanks
- Multiple measures and multiple sources allows teams to gain additional information about the child. This information may differ what is found during the assessment. If so, teams may decide to overrule the results from an assessment tool.

#### Family Involvement

- Family involvement is crucial to determination of accurate entry and progress ratings. Information and resources for involving families is located on the ECO Center webpage at http://ectacenter.org/eco/pages/families.asp
- Parent input about the child's functioning is critical
- Family members see the child in situations that professionals do not
- Need to ask family members about what the child does at home
- The team will need a way to learn what family members know about the child
- There is no expectation that parents will be able to determine whether what they are seeing is age appropriate

## **Summary Statement 1**

Of those children who entered the program below age expectations in each Outcome, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned 6 years of age or exited the program.

## **Summary Statement 2**

The percent of children who were functioning within age expectations in each Outcome by the time they turned 6 years of age or exited the program.

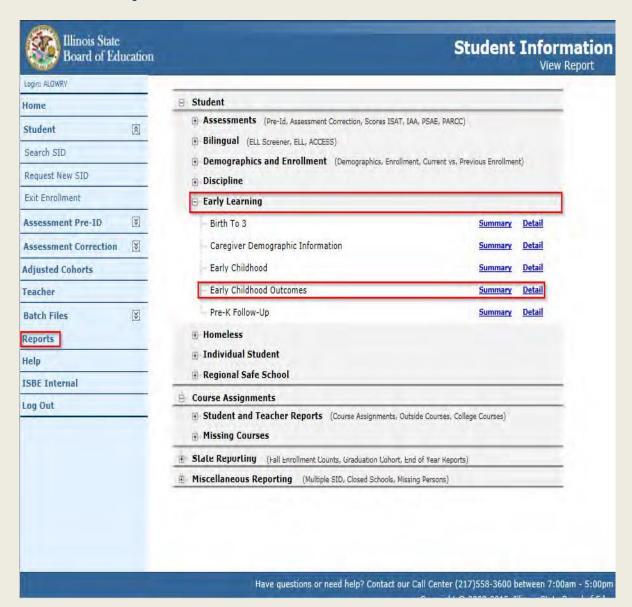
#### Common Errors

- Answer progress yes/no question based on rating
- Data systems default to "no"
- Entry date after Progress Ratings
- Progress Ratings outside of Feb 1-July 31 window
- Less than 6 months between entry and progress rating
- Progress not entered within 6 months of exit
- SIS grade in error

#### Where can you find your data?

- Special Education Profiles are now updated
  - These numbers based on the summary statements and data filters ISBE uses to find entry to progress ratings
- SIS Reports
  - Compiles a list of all district ratings

#### SIS Report



## Sis report

Progress Rating Missing

#### 6/22/2015 8:10:24AM Early Childhood Outcomes Report for School Year SIS Home District: 12345678901 ISBE Test District Selection Criteria: Currently Enrolled Students Only Sorted By: Student ID Primary Assessment Codes: Rating Codes: 01 Assessment and Evaluation Programming System (AEPS) 01 Not Yet 02 Carolina Curriculum for Infants and Toddlers/Preschoolers with Special Needs 02 Between Emerging and Not Yet High Scope Child Observation Record Emerging skills 04 Creative Curriculum Assessment Between Somewhat and Emerging Hawaii Early Learning Profile (HELP) Individual Growth and Development Indicators (IGDI) Between Somewhat and Completely Transdisciplinary Play-Based Assessment (TPBA) Work Sampling System Rating Category Codes: IEP for Speech Only Did not improve functioning Teaching Strategies GOLD Improved functioning, but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers Early Learning Scales (ELS) Improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it Improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers Parental Involvement Codes: Maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers 01 Information Received in Team Meeting from Parent Information from Parent Incorporated into assessment(s) 03 Did Not Use Information from Parent in Ratings Process Columns A Primary ongoing assessment E Psychologist or social worker participated in the ratings How was parent involved in the ratings Speech/language pathologist participated in the ratings Coordinator, LEA representative or administrator participated in the ratings G Another related service provider participated in the ratings D Early childhood teacher participated in the ratings Positive Social Aguisition and Use of Appropriate Action Relationships Knowledge Skills to Meet Own needs Home RCDTS Rating Date A B C D E F G Rating Progress Rating Progress Rating Progress Student ID: 123456789 Name: Smith Michael DOB: 01/01/2000 Race: 14 Gender: F IEP: Y Grade: Pre-K Entry Rating: 12345678912345 01/01/2014 01 Y Y Y Y N 05 05

05

Y

05

Y

Y

Progress Rating: 12345678912345 01/01/2014 09 01 Y Y N Y N

Duration since last rating 14 months

#### How to use ratings

- Does it meet your expectations?
- How discrepant is your data from current state levels?
- Does your program serve some children more effectively than others?
- Does your program serve children in families with specific characteristics more effectively than other?
- Do child outcomes differ across local programs?
- Do child outcomes differ across programs with specific intervention approaches or service features?
- Are trends over time showing gradual increases in rate of child progress and levels of achievement?

## Using Outcomes for Program **Improvement**

Defining Analysis

- 1. With stakeholders, decide where to target your effort. What are crucial policy and programmatic questions?
- 2. What is already known? How do you know that? Do you have relevant data already analyzed or available to answer the question?
- 3. Describe expected relationships with child outcomes. Explain why you expect that. Create a list of potentially related factors.
- 4. Identify an analysis to examine the relationships of the question content to child outcomes. Confirm that you have data needed for the analysis.
- Identify specific hypotheses given the planned analysis. How will the data look if you run that analysis and the expected relationships from Step 3 are there?

Analyzing Data

**Testing Inferences** 

Clarifying Expectations

- 6. Run the analysis. Format the results in tables. charts, etc., to share with stakeholders. This constitutes the evidence in the evidenceinference-action cycle.
- 7. Describe and interpret the results. What differences do you see? What might cause them? Real differences or data quality issues? Stakeholders share different ideas and make inferences. What else do you want to know? What further analyses are needed?
- 8. & 9. Conduct follow-up analyses. Format the results in charts. Describe and interpret the results as in Step 7. Repeat cycle.

10. Discuss appropriate actions based on your inference. Plan a series of action steps expected to improve the program and change outcomes.

11. Implement the actions to improve outcomes. Track timelines, plans for follow-up analyses, and expected outcomes. Repeat analyses after improvements are in place, including Steps 3-10 to see impact of changes. Revisit crucial questions from Step 1.

What is known may influence whether or not a question is prioritized as the focus of effort, as a crucial question

What is already known about the other things listed that might influence the relationships?

> As you further clarify hypotheses, consider whether the origin or format of the data used to answer the question could change any of the expected relationships. Because of how things are measured or who data are available from, are there implications for other things that might influence what is observed?

> > If further analyses are needed, describe them and what you expect to see in results of those analyses.

May repeat process several times as you drill down to better understand your data and determine which inferences are most likely.

Integrate improvement planning into ongoing systems improvement activities. Ensure overall process is part of system's continuous quality improvement cycle.

Improvement Planning Data-based Program

Analyzing Child Outcomes Data for Program Improvement Guidance Table

www.the-eco-center.org

ECO Center Version 1

### **Timing Reminders**

- Entry ratings must be completed within 45 calendar days of entry in to program or by the end of the school year if less than 45 days left in the school year.
- Progress ratings must be completed between February 1 and July 31.

Progress rating must be completed within the last six months of enrollment in ECSE services

For children receiving ECSE services who turn six during the school year, progress ratings should be completed as close as possible to the sixth birthday.

#### Next Steps

- What might be some changes to your current practice?
  - Process for determining rating?
  - Primary Assessments used to inform rating?
  - Family involvement in the rating?
  - Documentation used for rating?
  - Timing of rating?

#### Where to go for Technical Assistance

- STARNET starnet.org
- Early CHOICES eclre.org
- Administrator Academy
- ECTA Center <a href="http://ectacenter.org/eco/">http://ectacenter.org/eco/</a>

#### Resources

- Age expected milestones resources: http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~eco/assets/pdfs/Age-expected\_Resources.pdf
- Training resources on ECO ectacenter.org/eco/
- Illinois State Board of Education: www.isbe.net/Pages/Early-Childhood-Outcomes-System.aspx
- STAR NET <u>www.starnet.org</u>
- Early CHOICES web site: www.eclre.org
- Early Childhood Outcome Rating App: <a href="https://www.ec-ecotool.com">www.ec-ecotool.com</a>

#### **Contact Information**

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