

COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines and Early Intervention Staff/Participant/Family Pledge

Dear Families,

OSSB's Early Intervention Services cares about the health and safety of our participants, families and staff. We have been working diligently with administration, staff, and public health officials to review and develop procedures and guidelines related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) to prepare for home visits.

We are asking for your help in keeping staff, participants and families "COVID-19 Free" by following Early Intervention's guidelines, pledging to report your child(ren)'s or household member's illness, and cancelling any scheduled home visits when necessary.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") indicates you may have COVID-19 if you have the following new, non-chronic symptoms:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Our best defense against viruses is avoiding transmission. By following the recommendations of the CDC, ODH and our local health department, we can reduce illness for our staff, participants and families. We are asking for your commitment to:

● **Report Illness and Cancel Scheduled Home Visits if necessary.** If your child or anyone in your home has any of the symptoms listed above or a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher, please seek appropriate medical attention and cancel your home visit. If your child or anyone in your home has tested positive for COVID-19 or is presumed to be positive for COVID-19, please cancel your home visit and contact Early Intervention services to discuss the necessary length of time that must pass before your visit can be rescheduled. **By allowing a home visit to happen in your home or on your property, you are assuring Early Intervention Services and other participants and families that your child and all people in your household are not symptomatic and are fever-free.**

● **Report COVID-19 Illnesses.** Report possible COVID-19 symptom information or any COVID-19+ tests to Early Intervention Services, so we can track possible case numbers.

● **Remind participants and family members of the following important health habits:**

- **Wear a face covering as directed by Early Intervention's home visit policy.** Protect yourself and others by wearing a face covering at all times during a home visit.
- **Wash hands.** Practice good hand hygiene by washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If handwashing is not immediately available, frequent use of hand sanitizer is an alternative.
- **Cover** your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Use an elbow if no tissue is available.
- **Do not share** personal items – pens, pencils, cell phones, electronic devices, laptops, water bottles, drinks, food, or unwashed utensils.
- **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick. If your child or any member of your family has had close contact with a person with COVID-19, cancel your home visit and notify Early Intervention services.
- **Avoid touching** your eyes, nose, and mouth whenever possible.
- **Abide** by the Early Intervention's physical distancing procedures.

Without question, a return to in-person Early Intervention services includes risks of contracting COVID-19. Those risks are very serious, particularly for persons at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Even with everyone following the Early Intervention's guidelines and all cleaning and disinfecting efforts, risks remain. We take our responsibilities to participants and families very seriously, and we know that you do, too. We will continue to monitor COVID-19 with health officials, implement revised safety protocols as needed, and provide updates to our families.

Sincerely,

Early Intervention Visual Services

**Early Intervention Visual Services
Pledge**

Staff/Participant/Family

I have read and understand the importance of following Early Intervention's policies and procedures created in collaboration with local health departments, the Ohio Department of Health, the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and CDC guidance in reducing the known risks associated with students returning to school buildings.

I pledge to follow the Early Intervention's policies and procedures regarding home visits and join other participants, families, staff, and community members in their efforts to keep our participants and families safe and students healthy.

As a staff member, I further pledge to stay home and call in my illness and cancel all home visits when I have a fever over 100.4 degrees, have new, non-chronic symptoms included in the guidelines, had close contact with a person who has COVID-19, or tested positive for COVID-19.

As a participant, parent/guardian or household member, I further pledge to keep my child or children home and cancel all home visits if my child or anyone in my household: has a fever over 100.4 degrees, has new, non-chronic symptoms included in the guidelines, had close contact with a person who has COVID-19, or tested positive for COVID-19.

Parent/Guardian _____ Participant: _____
Date Date

Staff Member _____
Date