

Working in the Field of Early Childhood Intervention



TEXAS
Health and Human Services
Early Childhood Intervention

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

hhs.texas.gov/eci

Want to make a difference in the lives of families with young children with developmental delays or disabilities?

ECI staff report that working for ECI provides:

- Rewarding work that helps families and their young children.
- Opportunities for support and collaboration with professionals of varied disciplines.
- Free professional development opportunities offered by the ECI State Office.
- An interesting and exciting work environment.
- Flexible schedules.



What is ECI?

ECI programs serve families with children birth to 36 months with developmental delays or disabilities. ECI provides family support and specialized services to strengthen the family's ability to access resources and improve their child's development through daily activities.

What is Special About ECI?

ECI services are provided where the child lives, learns and plays. Though most ECI services are provided at home, they can be provided in other places where the child goes regularly (a child care center, park, library, etc.). Services are provided in-person or via telehealth.

ECI professionals coach, teach and support families and work together as a team to:

- Evaluate and assess each child.
- Plan developmental goals.
- Plan appropriate supports and services.
- Incorporate learning opportunities throughout the child's day.

ECI services are family-centered and incorporate early brain development research in intervention strategies. Research has proven that children learn, grow and develop in the context of relationships with their parents and caregivers.



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What are ECI Services?

ECI provides screenings, evaluations and assessments to determine service needs. Specialized services are individualized to the needs of the child and family. Every family enrolled in ECI receives case management to help them identify and coordinate needed resources.

Who Works for ECI?

ECI professionals work together with the family to focus on ways the family can support their child's development within their everyday routines and activities.

The licensed, credentialed and/or registered professionals include:

- Speech Language Pathologists CFYs and CCCs
- Occupational Therapists
- Physical Therapists
- Social Workers
- Counselors
- Nurses
- Psychological Associates
- Dieticians
- Early Intervention Specialists

Some programs may also hire certified occupational therapist assistants, speech language pathology assistants and physical therapy assistants.

College graduates with at least 18 hours of college coursework that relates to early childhood intervention may be hired as an Early Intervention Specialist (EIS). Once hired by an ECI program, EISs complete a comprehensive training program to earn their EIS Credential. The EIS Credential may only be obtained through employment with a Texas ECI Program.



Where do I find more information about ECI?

ECI Publications

Publications can be ordered through the [ECI Materials Ordering System](#) or by calling the Office of the Ombudsman at 877-787-8999.

ECI's Resource Guide

This guide contains resources on topics such as child care, developmental information, parent support, training and much more, that will help answer many questions you may have. Visit the [ECI Resource Guide](#).

ECI Videos

ECI has [two short videos](#) to help people learn about ECI and the services they provide.

Texas ECI: Family to Family allows you to learn more about ECI from families who talk about their own experiences with ECI.

About Texas ECI offers an overview of ECI's unique model of services.

How do I apply for a job in ECI?

ECI is eager to find well trained and qualified personnel. Each ECI program makes its own hiring decisions and has its own salary schedule and benefits package.

In order to find out about job opportunities, contact your local ECI program. To find the number of the ECI program in your area visit citysearch.hhsc.state.tx.us or call the Office of the Ombudsman at 877-787-8999.