

A place where you can get quick updates that spotlight what’s going on in Kentucky’s Early Intervention System (KEIS) through the listserv on the first Friday of every month

Have you missed previous editions? There's a First Friday Focus section on the Service Provider Information Page on the [KEIS website!](#)

Family Involvement

The SLA has been preparing the Annual Performance Report for the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2021 and wanted to share Indicator 4 data with you. This data is collected on the annual survey sent to all families who had an active IFSP during the FFY.

Percent of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family know their rights	98.46%
Percent of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family effectively communicate their needs	98.62%
Percent of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family help their children develop and learn	97.97%

The data indicates that families served by KEIS have a high satisfaction rate with the services they received. KEIS will continue to strive to meet the targets for Indicator 4 in FFY 2022. We want to thank all our POE staff and early interventionists for the work they do to help families understand their rights, effectively communicate their needs, and help their children develop and learn.

Family Survey Updates

In FFY 2022, the family survey is being disseminated to all families at exit from KEIS, rather than all at once. The survey is sent electronically to families who have an email on file in TOTS the month after exit. For a month, weekly electronic reminders are sent to encourage families to provide feedback on the quality of KEIS services received. If the family doesn’t have an email on file in TOTS, a paper survey with a postage paid return envelope is sent to them to provide a written response a month after exit. KEIS providers can play an integral role in the new survey methodology by encouraging families to complete the family survey at discharge. Family response data on the effectiveness of early intervention services is reported annually to OSEP and provides the SLA with ideas for quality improvement. We hope our revised data collection methods will increase the number of families responding.

Scheduling Annual and Exit Assessments

Please be sure to schedule all annual and exit assessments as early as possible when the assessment window opens. Inclement weather and instances of illness continue to be a factor. Illness or weather will not be an acceptable reason to switch from an in-

person assessment to a virtual assessment. Scheduling the assessment at the beginning of the window allows for time to reschedule if necessary. Primary Level Evaluators, please note that initial evaluations also are required to be in person. If the child/family is sick, the evaluation may be rescheduled. If you are sick, please let the POE know immediately. They may need to find another evaluator to meet the 45-day timeline. At this time, the only tele-assessments allowed are for families who are currently receiving tele-intervention services only from a primary service provider/primary coach who is located more than 50 miles one way from the child/family.

KEIS Billing Amounts

Please be sure to enter a "billed amount" on the accounts payable page in TOTS when billing out a claim. This amount is the rate that a provider sets for their services. The "billed amount" can be higher or the same as KEIS rates. KEIS will pay the maximum rate allowed by regulation regardless of the "billed amount" that is entered. A benefit of setting a higher rate is that insurance companies may pay above the KEIS rate, and any funds received from insurance above the KEIS rate are kept by the provider.

Rate Restructure Workgroup

An SLA Rate Restructure Workgroup has been convened and met for the first time in December 2022. KEIS implemented this workgroup to include providers in discussions about indicators that denote quality early intervention that can be tied to a tiered rate structure. The workgroup will also make suggestions for how to measure quality early intervention services. Workgroup members include KEIS providers from across the state, national TA providers, CEITMP staff, and SLA staff. This workgroup is engaged, enthusiastic, and passionate about early intervention and we can't wait to see what great ideas come from our meetings! The next meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2023.

Quote from a Part C Parent:

"I have noticed so much progress in my child since we started when he was 18 months old. He is currently 26 months old and the progress that he has made is amazing. I am truly inspired by the work that KEIS does and how it has also helped my husband and I to become better parents. My husband always tells me that this is my first time being a parent, and that I am not meant to know everything. I feel like KEIS has helped me to identify what my child needs and how to help him through his daily routine, play, and social activities."