







### **KEIS First Friday Focus – September 2025**

A place to get quick updates spotlighting what's happening in the Kentucky Early Intervention System (KEIS). The newsletter is sent on the first Friday of every month and is hosted on <u>Service Provider Information</u>.

## Earn Free CEUs While Strengthening Your Coaching Skills

Participating in monthly maintenance refresher meetings and reviewing exemplar videos has been shown to strengthen coaching practices and extend time between maintenance periods. To support this commitment to quality, the CEITMP now offers free CEUs (0.4 from ASHA and 4 from KSLPA, KBLOT and KPTA) for providers who complete all activities. These include viewing exemplar videos in TORSH, participating in a full 90-minute refresher, completing the brief survey during the refresher meeting, submitting a detailed self-assessment and all maintenance components on time and emailing an updated PD plan after demonstrating fidelity. If you have any questions about the maintenance offerings, please contact:

ceitmp@louisville.edu

# The Work You Do Today Shapes Their Tomorrow...Your Impact is Immeasurable

Each day, take a moment to reflect on your purpose. Why do you do this work? The answer may look different for each of us, but what unites us is the lasting impact we have on the lives of children and families. What's Your Why?

#### **Contacting KEIS**

**General Assistance:** <u>DPHKEIS@ky.gov</u> **Billing:** DPHKEISBilling@ky.gov

**Provider Enrollment:** 

KEISProviderEnrollment@ky.gov



#### **Keep Records Current for Smooth Billing and Payment**

Providers have 60 days after the authorization end date on planned IFSP services to access and correct the record. Making updates within this window helps avoid billing or record discrepancies. Keep in mind that once a new evaluation or assessment is entered in TOTS, it replaces the previous one, so edits to earlier assessments won't be possible. Timely updates ensure records stay accurate and billing payments run smoothly.

#### **Kentucky Celebrates POE Success, Focuses on Continued IDEA Improvements**

The U.S. Department of Education has released its 2025 IDEA determinations for all states, assessing progress under Part B and Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. This annual review evaluates each state's performance against measurable targets in the State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR), including the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP), which focuses on enhancing outcomes for children and families.

For the first time in many years, Kentucky was placed in the "Needs Assistance" category. The state met its targets for Indicator 2 (Services in Natural Environments) and Indicator 8 (Early Childhood Transition) and came within 2% of the target for seven other indicators. Areas needing improvement include Indicator 1 (Timely Provision of Services), Indicator 3 (Early Childhood Outcomes), Indicator 4 (Family Involvement), Indicators 5 and 6 (Child Find), Indicator 7 (45-day timeline), Indicator 11 (SSIP) and Indicator 12 (General Supervision). The 45-day timeline had the lowest performance at 94.37% (target: 100%).

Kentucky also issued Point of Entry (POE) determinations, with nine POEs earning the highest "Meets Requirements" rating. Congratulations to Barren River, Big Sandy, Bluegrass, Buffalo Trace, FIVCO, Gateway, KY River, Lincoln Trail and Purchase! KEIS remains committed to delivering high-quality early intervention services and will work diligently to strengthen performance in future determinations.

#### **Progress Reports: Keeping Families Informed and Goals on Track**

All early intervention providers on the IFSP team are required to enter Progress Reports in TOTS and share them with families at least five working days before 6-month reviews, annual IFSP meetings and program discharge. These reports highlight the child's and family's progress and their response to interventions. Submitting them on time helps the IFSP team review the plan's effectiveness, track progress toward outcomes and make any needed updates to meet ongoing or emerging needs. Detailed <a href="Progress Report Guidance">Progress Report Guidance</a> is available on the KEIS website.