



Florida's Early Steps Child Outcomes Measurement System Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) November 3, 2020

1. Q: When will the Child Outcomes Summary (COS) process be implemented in Florida?

A: On December 1, 2020, the Child Outcomes System process will be implemented in Florida. Florida will transition to full implementation of the COS process over the next three years, as the same method of measurement must be used at entry to and exit from Early Steps. A child who received an entry assessment prior to December 1, 2020, using the Battelle Developmental Inventory 2 (BDI2), must receive an exit assessment using the BDI2. All children who enter Early Steps December 1, 2020 and after will receive a COS entry assessment and therefore will receive a COS exit assessment.

2. Q: What training is required related to the Child Outcomes Summary process?

A: Eight self-directed Child Outcomes Summary Training modules addressing the knowledge and skills needed to work with teams to identify accurate child outcomes summary ratings are required. While six self-directed modules addressing the knowledge and skills to develop high quality functional outcomes have been developed, revisions are being made to those modules to ensure alignment with Florida's Embedded Practices and Intervention for Caregivers (FL-EPIC) approach that is being implemented and scaled up across the state as evidence-based practices in the State Systemic Improvement Plan.

3. Q: Who is required to complete the training?

A: All Local Early Steps (LES) staff, service coordinators and providers who will be involved in the Child Outcomes Summary process are required to complete the training.

4. Q: When does the training have to be completed?

A: Current staff and providers must complete the eight required Child Outcomes Summary Training modules by November 30, 2020; however, a date for completion of the six high quality functional outcomes training modules has not been established. The Early Steps State Office has a goal to revise the outcomes training as quickly as possible and will establish a target date for completion when the modules are revised. The ESSO is determining policy regarding the timeline after hire or contract that new staff or providers must complete COS training and will communicate that policy as soon as a decision is made.

5. Q: How can I access the required training?

A: The training modules are available in the TRAIN Learning Management System. Each LES program has a designated LES TRAIN Administrator for managing enrollment in the TRAIN system. The LES TRAIN Administrator will create a TRAIN account for each individual in the LES service area who will take the required training. All TRAIN users must make every effort to remember their TRAIN password. The LES TRAIN Administrator will assist any users who have forgotten their TRAIN password. The LES TRAIN Administrator will also register users for the required training, ensuring that there are no duplicate registrations.

6. Q: How will COS information be documented, submitted to the state and used for federal accountability reporting?

A: The ESSO is discussing documentation, reporting requirements, and training with the federal technical assistance team and will disseminate data collection and submission instructions during the month of November 2020. A modified version of the Florida Embedded Practices and Intervention with Caregivers (FL-EPIC) Early Steps Professional Development Project COS Form, as well as a modified version of the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center Early Childhood Outcomes Summary Statement Calculator will be used as temporary data collection and submission tools, until the Early Steps Administration System is implemented.

7. Q: How can I find out more information about implementation of the COS process?

A: Please visit the website listed below. Information related to COS implementation, training and data submission will be posted on this site and continuously updated. http://cmskids.com/families/early_steps/ChildOutcomesMeasurementSystem.html