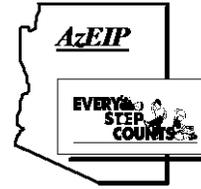


Chapter 5



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SYSTEM

Arizona Early Intervention Program

Table of Contents

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
5.0.0 Technical Assistance System	2
5.1.0 Authority	2
5.2.0 Introduction	2
5.3.0 Policy	2
5.4.0 Procedures	3

5.0.0 Technical Assistance System

5.1.0 Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1434(a)(10)(A); 34 C.F.R. §501

5.2.0 Introduction

The purpose of the AzEIP Technical Assistance System (AzEIP TA) is to provide guidance and assistance to enhance knowledge, confidence, and performance of IDEA, Part C, AzEIP policies and procedures, and State initiatives. As an interagency initiative, it directly responds to system needs identified through the Continuous Monitoring and Quality Improvement System, the Comprehensive System of Personnel Development and identified State initiatives. Technical assistance (TA) is provided through a variety of ways to ensure that the assimilation and application of information is practiced by the broad early intervention community. The overall goal of the TA system is to provide programs the opportunity to enhance their confidence and competence in providing early intervention supports and services in accordance with federal law and AzEIP policies and procedures and to collaborate with other early childhood programs.

5.3.0 Policy

1. AzEIP oversees the AzEIP TA system.
2. The AzEIP TA system supports the AzEIP community throughout the State.
3. The AzEIP TA system is linked with other early childhood Technical Assistance systems that support practitioners to support all infants and toddlers and their families and/or those that specialize in supporting infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities.
4. The primary recipients of technical assistance resources include:
 - A. early intervention personnel, including service coordinators, therapists, and developmental specialists;
 - B. early intervention administrators, including supervisors and management staff from AzEIP participating agencies;
 - C. families;
 - D. other early childhood community partners; and
 - E. primary referral sources, including, but not limited to, physicians, Head Start programs and Child Protective Services.
5. Technical assistance may be provided in the following ways:
 - A. written materials, such as IFSP Guidance Document, AzEIP Fidelity Checklist;
 - B. in person during site visits;
 - C. coaching in person, by telephone, e-mail, and occasional videoconferencing;
 - D. consultation in person, by telephone, e-mail, and occasional videoconferencing;
 - E. in-service trainings;

- F. regional/topical workshops;
 - G. statewide workshops, conferences, or meetings; and
 - H. web-based information sharing.
6. AzEIP sets TA priorities for the State based upon: IDEA, Part C priorities; State initiatives, State monitoring findings; and current research findings.
 7. DES/AzEIP ensures the evaluation of the TA system by the following:
 - A. short-term impact assessment through immediate participant feedback;
 - B. evaluation of intermediate and long-range impact on agencies and programs, including the review and comparison of monitoring data to determine progress and identify potential changes;
 - C. analysis of TA services requested and provided on a regular basis for inclusion, as appropriate, in federal, state, and local reporting;
 - D. agency and contractor reporting in monitoring activities on the efficacy of TA; and
 - E. analyzing close out reports with regard to TA provided in areas that came into compliance.

5.4.0 Procedures

1. A program may access TA to assist in compliance and/or practice improvement issues by
 - A. accessing written materials, such as IFSP Guidance Document, AzEIP Fidelity Checklist;
 - B. participating in site visits;
 - C. participating in coaching in person, by telephone, e-mail, and occasional videoconferencing;
 - D. attending in-service trainings; regional/topical workshops; statewide workshops, conferences, or meetings; and/or
 - E. web-based information sharing.
2. On a periodic basis, surveys will be sent to programs to obtain feedback on the TA provided.