



Hello! Welcome to the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) Newsletter.

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A Special Thanks!

We want to extend a sincere thank you to all the families who joined AzEIP's January Family Connection Forum! It was such a delight to connect with families directly and hear about each early intervention journey. We are already looking forward to the next Family Connection Forum on April 8th. There will be two sessions offered at 12pm and 6pm.

Public Participation on Revised Policies and Procedures

The Arizona Early Intervention Program is seeking public participation and comments on the proposed revised policy and procedures. Information for the proposed documents are linked to the website under Announcements.

<https://des.az.gov/azeip>

Public Comment Period: January 22, 2026 through February 25, 2026

To request policy notifications from AzEIP, use the *Contact AzEIP and Select a Topic* to see the 'Request to receive policy notifications'.

Submit any comments to:

AzEIP Public Comment

Arizona Early Intervention Program

1789 West Jefferson Street

Mail Drop 2HP1

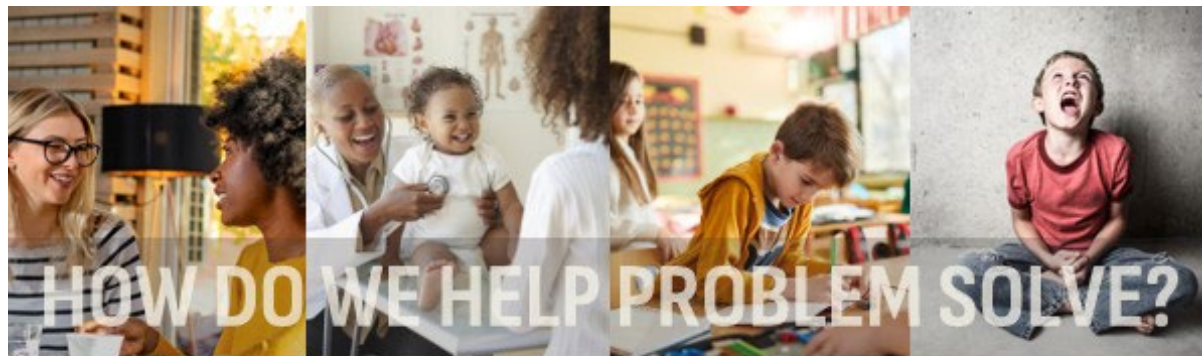
Phoenix AZ 85007

(602) 532-9960 (option 3)

Fax: (602) 200-9820

Email: azeip@azdes.gov (subject line: Public Comment)

Encircle Families



CONNECTIONS

Our Parent-to-Parent program connects families with trained volunteers who have walked a similar path and are ready to offer compassionate support, understanding, and guidance.

HEALTH INFORMATION

When a child is diagnosed with a disability or complex medical need, families often don't know where to start. We help them understand systems of care and partner with providers to support their child's well-being.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

We help parents understand their rights and how to collaborate with schools through trainings and one-on-one guidance. We work with educators to provide them with the parent perspective and encourage partnership.

BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

Behavior is a form of communication—even when it's hard to understand. Encircle Families offers guidance, from basic strategies to more intensive support for families navigating challenging behaviors.

Encircle Families is Arizona's IDEA, Parent and Training Information Center. They provide Parent-to-Parent support to help families navigate complex systems of care and connections with valuable resources. Visit the website to learn more

<https://encirclerfamilies.org/>

Upcoming parent trainings - <https://encirclerfamilies.org/events/>




- Feb 04 Positive Behavior Support
- Feb 05 Individualized Education Program (IEP) Training

The Parenting Brief is a podcast for parents featuring tips for fellow parents and the latest insights from childhood experts. The topics address expecting parents and families of children 0-5 years. Hosted by mom and early childhood development expert Jessica Stewart-Gonzalez. For more information visit the website


<https://strongfamiliesaz.com/the-parenting-brief/>



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Professional Development Opportunities

The Mary Lou Fulton College for Teaching and Learning Innovation at Arizona State University is pleased to announce another set of courses for the **Early Intervention Specialization**, a facilitated professional learning opportunity designed for professionals working with infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

This specialization consists of a series of **one-credit courses aligned with the DEC EI/ECSE Professional Standards**, emphasizing evidence-based practices, real-world application, and reflective learning. The **next three courses are now available**, and registration is open. Next cohort starts on February 4.

You can learn more and register here: <https://educatorhub.asu.edu/catalog/early-intervention-facilitated-bundle2026/>

The Early Intervention Specialization is designed to support early intervention organizations in building capacity, strengthening practice, and promoting consistent, high-quality early intervention services. Courses are facilitated and structured to encourage meaningful engagement, discussions, and practical application across diverse professional roles.

SAVE THE DATE



2026 Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education Summit

Best Practices to Improve Outcomes

Wednesday, March 4th

Attend with your colleagues in-person or through the virtual platform.

Registration Fee: \$100

Virtual

In Person

Desert Willow Conference Center



The 2026 EI/ECSE Summit will be hybrid. For registration, visit the ADE website <https://azed.geniussis.com/Registration.aspx>

For questions about the Early Childhood/Special Education Summit: send email to ECSEInbox@azdes.gov



The Strong Families Home Visiting Alliance provides free online training for home visiting professionals. Link to the upcoming trainings https://strongfamiliesaz.com/wp-content/themes/strong2017/landingpage/home-visiting-conference/assets/pdf/2026/20252026_Learning_Festival_Calendar.pdf

Family Feedback

"We are truly grateful for the support we have received through the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP). From the very beginning, the process was handled with care, patience, and understanding. The team took the time to listen to our

concerns, explain each step clearly, and guide us through what can be an overwhelming journey for any parent. Early Intervention services have made a meaningful difference in our child's development, and we feel supported not just as parents, but as a family. The kindness, responsiveness, and genuine care shown by everyone involved reassured us that our child is in good hands. Thank you, AzEIP, for the important work you do and for supporting families during such a critical stage of their child's growth." ~VM, Parent

Share your story!

As a parent with personal experience of the early intervention services, we want to hear from you. Hearing from families about their experience in early intervention helps us improve our services for children and families.

You can share your family's AzEIP story with the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) for Infants and Toddlers. You are invited to join the council meetings to listen in as a member of the public or become a voting member to make an impact on the future of Part C services in Arizona. For more information, visit the ICC webpage <https://des.az.gov/services/developmental-disabilities/early-intervention/icc-forinfants-and-toddlers>. If you have questions, please email - azicc@des.gov or call (602) 532-9960.

Stay Connected

The Arizona Early Childhood Community Facebook page, hosted by the Interagency Coordinating Council's Family Engagement Committee, provides various early childhood resources and community events for families. Follow Arizona Early Childhood Community on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/azearlychildhoodICC>



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