

CHAPTER 3: EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

REVISION DATES: 07/01/2021, 12/14/2018

EFFECTIVE DATES: 04/01/2022, 07/01/2019

INTENDED USER(S): All ADES/AzEIP personnel, AzEIP Service Providing Agencies including all employees, contractors, subcontractors, and volunteers.

REFERENCES/AUTHORITY: 20 U.S.C. §§ 1431, et seq.; 34 C.F.R. §§ 303.303-346, 420, and 421, 34 C.F.R. §§ 303.340; 342(a), 343(a) and § 303.344, § 303.342(b) and § 303.342(c), Rush, D. D., & Shelden, M. L. (2011). The early childhood coaching handbook. Baltimore, MD: Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co.

3.7 Evaluation

3.7.1 To determine eligibility based on a multidisciplinary evaluation covering all of the developmental areas, two evaluation team members of different disciplines must be present and of the following disciplines: DSI, OT, PT, SLP, Psych, SW, TVI, or TOD.

A. In no event may an evaluation standard score be used to negate a child's initial eligibility based on an established condition.

3.7.2 The Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MET) reviews all available information and determines the information still needed to determine eligibility for AzEIP. In conducting an evaluation, no single procedure may be used as the sole criterion for determining a child's eligibility for AzEIP. Procedures must include:

A. Administering an ADES/AzEIP approved evaluation tool (see AzEIP website for list of approved tools) and documents the results on the Developmental Evaluation Report

B. Documenting the child's history (including interviewing the parent)

C. Identifying and documenting the child's present level of development in each of the following developmental domains:

- 1) physical: fine and/or gross motor and sensory (includes vision and hearing)
- 2) cognitive
- 3) language/communication
- 4) social or emotional
- 5) adaptive (self-help).

D. Gathering information from other sources such as family members, other caregivers, medical providers, social workers, educators, etc. to understand the full scope of the child's unique strengths and needs

E. Reviewing medical, educational, or other records if available.

3.7.3 If the child is determined AzEIP eligible after the age of two (2) years six (6)

months, the MET ensures the family is aware of the automatic Public Education Agency (PEA) referral unless they choose to opt-out by the end of the visit in which AzEIP eligibility is determined.

- 3.7.4 If based on the evaluation, the child **meets** the AzEIP eligibility criteria, the service coordinator:
- A. provides the family a copy of the Developmental Evaluation Report, the PWN, and the Child and Family Rights in the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) booklet, and explains the reasons for the determination within ten (10) business days from the date of the evaluation
 - B. ensures the evaluation and eligibility data are entered in the ADES data system(s)
 - C. sends the Developmental Evaluation Report and all other necessary documentation to DDD for eligibility determination if the family has consented to use their insurance and completes a DDD application.
- 3.7.5 If based on the evaluation the child **does not** meet the AzEIP eligibility criteria, the service coordinator:
- A. provides the family a copy of the Developmental Evaluation Report, the PWN, and the Child and Family Rights in the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) booklet, and explains the reasons for the determination within ten (10) business days from the date of the evaluation
 - B. explores with the family other community resources and activities to assist them in supporting their child, such as childcare, playgroups, library social time, informal and organized parent-parent support, and workshops through local schools, hospitals, childcare resources
 - C. ensures the evaluation and eligibility data are entered, including all information required to exit the child, in the ADES data system(s).
- 3.7.6 If the family disagrees with the denial of AzEIP eligibility, the family may initiate the dispute resolution process (i.e., filing a complaint, requesting mediation or a due process hearing) as described in the Child and Family Rights in the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) booklet.