



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

1500 Jefferson Street, SE • P.O. Box 40975 • Olympia WA 98504-0975

July 31, 2020

Dear Early Intervention Provider Agencies,

The attached framework consolidates Stage One and Stage Two as recommended for simplicity and adds Stage Three to clearly indicate a return to typical operations and the termination of any emergency provisions issued as a result of COVID-19.

The ESIT Tri-Stage Framework for Reentry to In-Person Service Delivery is informed by:

- Themes identified in the Stakeholder Engagement Webinars on May 28, June 25 and July 23, 2020.
- Correspondence and phone calls with individual providers and family members.
- Weekly task group meetings to review feedback, share resources and provide critical input into the Safe Start Reentry Plan framework.
- Review and feedback from the Executive Steering Committee of the State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) on June 17, 2020.
- Review and feedback from the full State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) and guests in attendance on July 15, 2020.

Much appreciation is owed to the task group that put many hours of thought and effort into the development of this framework. The group included representation from early intervention service providers and parents who serve on our SICC, a parent currently receiving services representing the Parent Institute for Engagement (PIE) and ESIT state team representatives:

- Whitney Stohr, PIE Parent Representative
- Cindy Carrol, SICC Provider Representative
- Mary Cline-Stively, SICC Provider Representative
- Lisa Greenwald, SICC Provider Representative
- Anne Lucas, National TA ECTA
- Maia Thomas, ESIT Program Consultant
- E Renae' Antalán, SICC Parent Representative
- Sugely Sanchez, SICC Parent Representative
- Maryanne Barnes, SICC Provider Representative
- Michelle LaMotte, SICC Provider Representative
- Katy McCullough, National TA ECTA

Decisions regarding when to begin the transition back to offering in-person services clearly resides with each local early intervention provider agency. There are many factors that go into the decision. The first consideration will, of course be which phase of Gov. Inslee's Safe Start Plan each county is in. Other more nuanced factors may include the agency's staff vulnerability and readiness and the program or agency's capacity to provide the supports required to keep children, families and staff safe. This emphasizes the importance of involving families in the reentry planning process and clearly communicating to all stakeholders the rationale for agency decisions which may differ even within the same counties.

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I continue to be especially impressed by the commitment, creativity and responsiveness of early intervention staff working in extraordinary circumstances at all levels of the ESIT state system. Thank you, once again, in joining us in this important work on behalf of infants, toddlers and their families.

If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to reach out to your regional program consultant or contact me directly at laurie.thomas@dcyf.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Laurie Thomas

Laurie Thomas
ESIT Administrator

Enclosures:

ESIT Tri-Stage Framework for Reentry to In-Person Service Delivery

ESIT Stages Map to Safe Start Phases

Framework Checklist