



JB Pritzker, Governor

Illinois Department of Human Services

Grace B. Hou, Secretary

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To: All Early Intervention Stakeholders

From: Ann Freiburg, Chief *AmF*
Bureau of Early Intervention

Date: May 14, 2021

Re: Early Intervention (EI) Weekly Update

The Governor has confirmed that Illinois has moved into the Bridge Phase of the Reopening Plan today. The Bridge Phase allows for expanded capacity limits for many businesses and gatherings while we await the full reopening of Phase 5. For additional details, see the [plan](#). If indicators continue to move in the desired fashion, Illinois could enter Phase 5 as soon as June 11, 2021. Right now, the move to the Bridge Phase does not include any changes to current early intervention practices.

Early intervention stakeholders continue to gather information to enhance planning for our post-pandemic early intervention system. As part of this planning for post-pandemic service delivery, we continue to monitor the evolving details on mitigation strategies for people who have been vaccinated. We will also be consulting with our Illinois Department of Public Health contacts to determine if changes can be made to our current guidance.

The Bureau continues to value the vaccine as an essential tool for helping us get back to normal. Vaccine distribution has expanded and is now accessible through many private physicians' offices and smaller medical providers. To find where you can get a vaccine, visit: <https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/vaccination-location>.

As we evaluate the new information about the protections afforded by the vaccine, we recommend continuing to wear masks, wash hands, and maintain physical distance. The [Illinois Department of Public Health's website](#) continues to be the best source of information on [regional conditions](#) and the activities permitted within each region. For details about approved activities, review the [updated plan](#).

Please continue to monitor the [Provider Connection's website](#) for updates to policy and procedure. The [EITP's website](#) and [Facebook page](#), and the [EI Clearinghouse's website](#) should also be monitored for information and resources.

Stay safe and know that we appreciate all you do for infants, toddlers, and families!