



Illinois Department of Human Services

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To: All Early Intervention Stakeholders

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

Date: May 21, 2021

Re: Early Intervention (EI) Weekly Update

Illinois' move to the Bridge Phase of the Reopening Plan does not currently change any of our early intervention guidance. We have consulted with the Illinois Department of Public Health and anticipate that we will have updated guidance after the Reopen workgroup meets next week. For additional details on the Bridge Phase, see the [plan](#). If indicators continue to move in the desired fashion, Illinois could enter Phase 5 as soon as June 11, 2021.

We are all working to keep early intervention families engaged during the pandemic. To that end, the EI Clearinghouse has put together a parent pack of selected tip sheets, a beach ball, a pen, a bookmark, and two KN95 masks. Tell the families you serve to check their mail as they can have all these items shipped to their home by filling out the [online form](#).

The Bureau continues to value the vaccine as an essential tool for helping us get back to normal. As vaccine access expands, we move closer to resuming pre-pandemic activities. Vaccine distribution 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](#).

Monitor the [Provider Connections website](#) for updates to policy and procedure. The [EITP website](#) and [Facebook](#) page, and the [EI Clearinghouse](#) website should also be monitored for information and resources.

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