Developmental Therapist Credential Summary

PROVIDER CONNECTIONS
PART C - EARLY INTERVENTION CREDENTIALING AND ENROLLMENT
FUNDED BY THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

How do I become a Development Therapist?

To become a Developmental Therapist in Illinois, you must complete the EI Credential Application and meet specific education, training, and documentation requirements outlined by Provider Connections.

Qualifying Degrees

Early Childhood Education,
Early Childhood Special Education,
Special Education,
Child Development,
Early Intervention,
Elementary Education

An applicant seeking Developmental Therapy Hearing, DT Vision Orientation & Mobility credentialing must have a bachelors degree or higher in:

Special Education: Deaf/Hard of Hearing or Blind/Partially Sighted

Application

The credential application can be accessed through Provider Connections' website.

Navigate to the home page, from there, hover over "Applications," and then click on "Application - New," scroll down and download the application by clicking the "Download Credential Application!" button.

Mail your complete Application to Provider Connections. Ensure all required documents are included in your application.

Documents Required for Application

- Application for Illinois Early Intervention Credential
- Authorization for Background Check- CANTS
- Ongoing Professional Development
- EI Matrix (IMPACT enrollment and a payee is required for billing purposes)
- Official transcripts
- System Overview and System Overview Follow-UP
- Core hours must be completed whether by your official transcript or EITP
- Global Assessment completion certificate if not reflected in official transcripts

Official Transcripts

Official transcripts must be sent to Provider Connections from your institution of learning via fax: 1-309-298-3066 or email: providerconnections@wiu.edu.

'Issued to student' copies are not accepted unless sent in a sealed envelope from the university. Please notify us if your legal name does nat match the name on your transcript.

Core Knowledge Hours

To become or remain a credentialed provider in Illinois Early Intervention (EI), unlicensed providers must meet core knowledge requirements set by Rule 500.

These include hours in:

- 15 hours: Typical Development (Birth–3)
- 15 hours: Atypical Development (Birth–3)
- 30 hours: Assessment of Young Children (Birth-3) with Special Needs
- 30 hours: Intervention Strategies (Birth -3)
- 30 hours: Working with Families (Birth -3)

College courses that focus on birth to age 3 may count toward these hours (1 semester hour = 15 clock hours). If your transcript doesn't cover all topics, you can complete EI-approved trainings through the Early Intervention Training Program (EITP).

Note: Not all CEUs are EITP-approved. Visit their site for eligible training options.
To check if your college courses count, use the Approved University Courses page. Be sure to follow the instructions and use the search tool.

Submitting Your Application

Please use the appropriate address below based on your shipping method.

USPS Mailing Address:
Center for Best Practices in Early Childhood Education
Western Illinois University
#20 Horrabin Hall
1 University Circle
Macomb, IL 61455

UPS, FedEx, DHL, and Other Shipping Carriers
Provider Connections
Western Illinois University
950 N Western Ave, Horrabin Hall, Room 20
Macomb, IL 61455

System Overview Trainings

You must complete the System Overview and System Overview Follow-Up trainings before receiving a credential. These include a self-paced online module and a one-day webinar, available on the EITP website.

For questions, contact EITP at 217-300-9661 or toll-free at 866-509-3867.

After completing the trainings, include your certificates with your application or email them (as one attachment) to: providerconnections@wiu.edu.

National Provider Identifier Number- NPI

If you don't have an NPI number, you'll need to apply for one online through the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) website.

Global Assessment

View the full list of DHS-approved Global and Cognitive Assessment Tools.
You may meet the Global Assessment requirement through relevant college coursework or EITP-approved trainings.

IMPACT Enrollment

Developmental Therapists must be enrolled in IMPACT to receive authorizations to provide services from a CFC.

Next Steps After Credentialing

With your temporary credential, you have 18 months to complete the required 240 hours of consultation. Submit the Consultation Verification Form as soon as you've met this requirement. Once credentialed, be sure to read the Provider Handbook at providerconnections.org and subscribe to email updates using the "Subscribe to Blog via Email" option on our homepage.