

What is the family's role?

Family members are important to EI services because they know their children best.

Families should:

- Share interests, priorities, preferences, dislikes, needs, and any questions,
- Set goals based on how their child's progress fits with what is important to their family,
- Be active in services. Share and learn from providers so they can work with their children during their everyday activities between visits,
- Inform service coordinators of issues that may affect their family's services.

What is the cost?

EI services are provided to all eligible children regardless of the family's household income or other federal and state benefits that the family may receive.

Certain services are provided by KEIS at no cost to families.

These services include:

- Screening
- Service coordination
- Evaluation and assessment
- Developing the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)
- Implementing procedural safeguards (parent's rights)

All eligible families are assessed for their ability to pay for EI services. Families with higher incomes may have to contribute a participation fee that is calculated using the family's total household income, household size and the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Most families do not pay a fee.

To find your Point of Entry Office scan the QR code or visit:

<https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dmch/ecdb/fs/POElistingforWebsite.pdf>



For more information contact:

Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Department for Public Health
KEIS Program

275 E. Main St., HS2-EE
Frankfort, KY 40621
(502)564-3756 or
(877) 417-8377

The cost of printing was paid from state funds through the Department for Public Health and KEIS, pursuant to KRS 57.375.



EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES


KEIS
Kentucky Early Intervention System



Kentucky Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

What is KEIS?

- A family-focused service for children from birth until age three with developmental delays in their natural environment
- A system of educational services and support for families to help understand their child's development and to assist the family in addressing the areas of delay
- A process that helps parents learn to help their children develop
- A partnership between the child's parents, caregivers, childcare providers, professionals, and others to help the child
- A family-centered process that is personalized to each family
- A voluntary program of early intervention (EI) services

KEIS is not:

- A clinic-based or medical therapy
- A provider working independently with a child while the parent does something else
- A program that addresses only the child
- A program with no specific goals or objectives
- A team providing services without asking the family for input



Why is EI important?

During the first three years of life, children's brains and bodies are growing rapidly. They are learning many new things about the world around them. While all children grow and learn at their own pace, some children need extra help.

KEIS helps by:

- Increasing the family's ability to meet their child's needs,
- Assisting infants and toddlers to reach age-appropriate development levels,
- Maximizing the development that occurs during a child's first three years,
- Reducing feelings of isolation, stress and frustration families may experience,
- Lowering long-term educational costs by minimizing the need for special education and related services at school age, and
- Helping children grow up to become productive, independent individuals.

Who is eligible?

A child is eligible for KEIS services if they have either:

- A developmental delay greater than other children their age as determined through an evaluation.
- A medical diagnosis of a condition that may result in developmental delay as the child ages.

Where are KEIS services provided?

KEIS services are provided in the child's natural environment, which includes home, childcare, and community settings. Services are grounded in the belief that young children learn best from familiar people in familiar settings.



Who provides KEIS services?

The Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) team includes a service coordinator, the family and KEIS providers. The IFSP team is responsible for using the child and family's interests as the basis for services.

IFSP team members will:

- Work together to support children as they learn and grow;
- Focus on enhancing child participation in existing and desired family, community, and early childhood experiences;
- Use each team member's expertise to help meet the family-centered IFSP goals;
- Be timely for scheduled appointments and notify each other if services need to be rescheduled; and
- Help each other answer tough questions.

Who makes referrals to KEIS?

The process is simple: anyone (a parent, doctor, family member, caregiver, teacher, or friend) can make a referral by calling the Point of Entry and providing a family's contact information.