

TA Community of Practice:

Mission and Key Principles for Providing Early Intervention Services in Natural Environments

MISSION

Part C early intervention builds upon and provides supports and resources to assist family members and caregivers to enhance children's learning and development through everyday learning opportunities.

KEY PRINCIPLES

- 1. Infants and toddlers learn best through everyday experiences and interactions with familiar people in familiar contexts.
- 2. All families, with the necessary supports and resources, can enhance their children's learning and development.
- 3. The primary role of a service provider in early intervention is to work with and support family members and caregivers in children's lives.
- 4. The early intervention process, from initial contacts through transition, must be dynamic and individualized to reflect the child's and family members' preferences, learning styles and cultural beliefs.
- 5. IFSP outcomes must be functional and based on children's and families' needs and family-identified priorities.
- 6. The family's priorities, needs and interests are addressed most appropriately by a primary provider who represents and receives team and community support.
- 7. Interventions with young children and family members must be based on explicit principles, validated practices, best available research, and relevant laws and regulations.

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