



Dear Early Intervention Community,

Early Intervention (EI) Colorado would like to share updated information regarding the provision of EI services through virtual visits and the timeline for beginning in person visits. This guidance is based on Governor Polis' Safer at Home and in the Vast, Great Outdoors orders, information provided by the Colorado Department of Health and Environment and CDC, as well as advisement from the EI Colorado planning work group.

EI Colorado is planning next steps in permitting some EI visits to take place outdoors, provided outlined safety precautions (in development) are followed, **beginning August 3, 2020**. This means that the current requirement by EI Colorado of all visits being provided virtually will continue up to at least that date. Determining the safest way to conduct outdoor visits, creating accompanying guidelines and determining which situations are most critical to in person visits will be the highest priority of the EI Colorado planning work group. By September 1, 2020, the work group intends to address the role of service coordinators with regard to in person visits for IFSP related activities.

At this time, and through at least August 2, 2020, only virtual visits will be authorized or funded as an EI service by EI Colorado for children with an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). Please know that virtual visits will continue to be an option beyond August 3, 2020.

The EI Colorado planning work group would like to thank you for participating in the surveys regarding virtual visits and the return to in person visits. Information from the surveys will be used to inform our plan for the return to in-person visits and overall improvement of EI services through virtual visits.

The need to provide services differently as a result of COVID-19 has also provided us an opportunity to evaluate how we can best serve children and families moving forward. EI Colorado continues to plan for adjustments to our model to incorporate health and safety considerations for the children, families, service coordinators and providers engaged in EI services. Our goal is not to return to pre-COVID-19 EI practices but to offer improved services based on what we currently know. This may mean some activities will either remain virtual or become a combination of in person and virtual services.

Please review additional information regarding EI Colorado's response to COVID-19 at [www.eicolorado.org](http://www.eicolorado.org)

Sincerely,

The EI Planning Work Group

June 23, 2020