

Enhancements to *Early On* Referral Process

Early On Public Awareness

May, 2025



Our Agenda

1. Request From Physicians
2. Referral Intake Additions
3. Communication From the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement and Potential (MiLEAP)
4. Analysis of Early Data
5. Email for Questions



Enhancements to *Early On* Referral Form



Request From Physicians

- In collaboration with the MIAAP, the University of Michigan YPL, MiLEAP, and the MDE, OSE
- Elimination of the back-and-forth
- Enhancement to the referral form



Referral Intake Form Addition

- Necessary information for determining eligibility
- “Health Status Report” section
- Physician-initiated referrals only

Health Status Report

When compared to a typically developing, same-aged peers, do any of the child's above diagnoses (including all physical, mental, and behavioral health disorders) have:

Potential to impact their capacity for physical exertion and/or the ability to resist force?

(e.g. does the child need more assistance with mobility and/or physical transitions than would be expected?)

☐ Yes ☐ No

Potential to impact their ability to fully participate in daily routines due to decreased endurance, reduced energy, or inability to sustain effort?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Potential to impact their ability to orient and respond, direct their attention, or meaningfully engage in an activity?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Hearing Screening/Test

- If the child has had a Hearing Screening/Test and a Vision Screening/Test, a drop down section will appear, prompting the physician to input the date of the screening/test as well as the results.
- To determine eligibility:
 - A recent vision and hearing report from a physician can be used -
 - Within three months if the child is younger than 18 months;
 - Within six months if older;
 - If the child is younger than three months of age, the newborn hearing screening result may be used.

Hearing Screening/Test Date:

March	▼	26	▼	2025	▼
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Hearing Screening/Test Results:

☐ Normal ☐ Abnormal

Has the child had a Vision Screening/Test?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Vision Screening/Test Date:

March	▼	26	▼	2025	▼
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Vision Screening/Test Results:

☐ Normal ☐ Abnormal

Memo From MiLEAP

- Communication serves as confirmation
- Applies to physician referrals only
- All other referrals will still need Health Status Request Form completed



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
LIFELONG EDUCATION, ADVANCEMENT, AND POTENTIAL

LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

BEVERLY WALKER-GRIFFEA, Ph.D.
DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 12, 2025

TO: *Early On* Coordinators and Providers

FROM: Janet Timbs, Ed.S. *Jmt*
Manager, Birth to Five Early Childhood Special Education
Office of Early Education

SUBJECT: Health Status Report

In collaboration with the Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the University of Michigan Youth Policy Lab, we are excited to announce an enhancement to the referral process for physicians.

To further streamline this process, we have updated the *Early On* referral intake form by adding questions that better capture the information necessary for determining eligibility.

Previously, *Early On* personnel would have to send a Health Status Request to physicians to complete and return after the local *Early On* office received their referral. To eliminate the need for this back-and-forth, we have integrated a new "**Health Status Report**" section directly into the referral form for physician-initiated referrals. See below:

Health Status Report

When compared to a typically developing, same-aged peer, do any of the child's above diagnoses (including all physical, mental, and behavioral health disorders) have the potential to impact their:

Capacity for physical exertion and/or the ability to resist force?

(e.g. does the child need more assistance with mobility and/or physical transitions than would be expected?)

☐ Yes ☐ No

Ability to fully participate in daily routines due to decreased endurance, reduced energy, or inability to sustain effort?

☐ Yes ☐ No

What Early Data Shows

- Of 559 Physician Referrals, 223 (40%) have the Health Status Report section completed
- More physician training is needed
- Opportunities for Collaboration with Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
 - Newsletter
 - Presenting at Fall Conference





Thank you! Questions? Email: jkoenigsknecht@ccresa.org;