



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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John R. Kasich/Governor

Richard Hodges/Director of Health

To: Public of Ohio
All Early Intervention Providers in the State of Ohio

From: Director Richard Hodges, MPA, Director of Health

Date: November 1, 2014

In order to fulfill the public participation requirements of the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities* in the State of Ohio, for which the Ohio Department of Health is Lead Agency, the following is provided as communication of our minimum requirements for allowing the public to participate in the policies and procedures which govern the Early Intervention program in Ohio:

The ODH will comply with the requirements of 34 CFR 303.208(a), resulting in the ODH posting for open public comment, each and every annual application for Part C IDEA funds for a minimum of 60 calendar days on the website <http://www.helpmegrow.ohio.gov/> with an opportunity for public comment to be made directly to the ODH for no less than 30 calendar days before application submission.

The ODH will comply with the requirements of 34 CFR 303.208(b), resulting in the ODH posting for open public comment, each Early Intervention proposed rule change for a minimum of 60 calendar days on the website <http://www.helpmegrow.ohio.gov/> with an opportunity for public comment to be made directly to the ODH for no less than 30 calendar days before application submission. In addition to public posting, the ODH will hold public hearings on any new rule, with notification provided no less than 30 calendar days before any scheduled hearing.

The ODH will furthermore provide notification before implementation of any new policy in Early Intervention from the Secretary at the US Department of Education, in accordance with 34 CFR 303.101(c).

This memo serves as notification of the public participation obligation that the Ohio Department of Health willingly undertakes as Ohio's Governor-appointed Lead Agency for *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities* to the state's general public, including individuals with disabilities, parents of infants and toddlers with disabilities, Early Intervention service providers, and the Help Me Grow Early Intervention Advisory Council and stakeholders.

If you have any questions about this memo, please contact your ODH program consultants.