

#4 Eligibility: *How are children eligible for HMG-EI if they have a diagnosed condition that is not on the approved ODH list?*

Response:

The Ohio Help Me Grow rule 3701-8-07 A(1) allows children to be determined eligible for HMG-EI when the child presents with a diagnosed condition that is not on the ODH approved list, but the service coordinator has information that suggests the child's diagnosed condition is/will impact the child's development unless HMG intervenes. The service coordinator requests and obtains from the child's qualifying health care provider the following information on **HEA 8024**:

- Name of the diagnosed condition
- Signature of the qualified health care provider
- Statement of how the diagnosed condition is affecting or has a high likelihood of causing a developmental delay
- HEA 8024 must be completely filled out

By requesting and obtaining a completed HEA Form 8024 the service coordinator "presumes" the child eligible for HMG-EI. The child is eligible for a multidisciplinary assessment to determine the family and child's need for early intervention services. The service coordinator must **make sure the completed form 8024 is returned in enough time to complete all of the 45 day time line requirements**. If the service coordinator is not able to obtain a completed HEA 8024 form within the 45 day time frame; then the service coordinator coordinates eligibility determination through a developmental evaluation for this the child with parent permission.

Considerations for Planning and Program Implementation:

- It is the role and responsibility of the service coordinator to coordinate the eligibility process for all infants and toddlers referred to HMG EI and ensure that the child is determined eligible or not within 45-days from date of the program referral to HMG-EI.
- It is the role and responsibility of the service coordinator to inform families what the eligibility process will look like for their child
- It is the role and responsibility of the service coordinator to obtain informed consent from the parent and inform the parent that eligibility and child assessment is a required component of HMG
- The next step for an eligible child is for the service coordinator to coordinate the multidisciplinary child assessment to determine the child's need for one or more early intervention services. The team would also offer the family directed assessment to determine the family's resources, priorities and needs related to promoting their child's development.
- If the service coordinator cannot obtain the required documentation within 45 day time line OR the service coordinator does not have information to suggest that the child's diagnosed condition is NOT impacting the child's development then the child's eligibility will need to be determined using the appropriate process as outlined in 3701-8-07 (B)(4)(b)

Authorizing Rule: 3701-8-07