

The Center to Inform Personnel Preparation Policy and Practice In Early Intervention & Preschool Education



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Prepared by:

A.J. Pappanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, & Service University of Connecticut 263 Farmington Avenue, MC6222 Farmington, CT 06030-6222 Tel: (860) 679-1500 Toll-free: (866) 623-1315 TTY: (860) 679-1502 Fax: (860) 679-1571 uconnucedd.org



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Data Report

Study VII Data Report: Part C - Competence & Confidence of Practitioners Working with Children with Disabilities

The Center to Inform Personnel Preparation Policy and Practice in Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education (referred to hereafter as the Center) was established in January, 2003 as a five-year project funded by the Office of Special Education Programs. The purpose of this Center is to collect, synthesize and analyze information related to: (a) certification and licensure requirements for personnel working with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who have special needs and their families, (b) the quality of training programs that prepare these professionals, and (c) the supply and demand of professionals representing all disciplines who provide both ECSE and EI services. Information gathered will be utilized to identify critical gaps in current knowledge and design and conduct a program of research at the national, state, institutional and direct provider level to address these gaps. This program of research and policy formulation will yield information vital to developing policies and practices at all levels of government, including institutions of higher education.

Introduction

To maximize the benefits of early intervention and early childhood special education, it is essential that personnel have the professional ethics, the specialized knowledge of infant and toddler development, and the ability to collaborate successfully with families (Caulfield, 1997). Although the need for qualified and trained personnel is well established, nationwide certification or standards to ensure appropriate qualifications are virtually nonexistent. The lack of public policy to address this issue has lead to varied training and qualifications, influencing the level of competence and confidence of personnel providing services to families and children ages birth to five years.

The Center to Guide Personnel Preparation Policy and Practice in Early Intervention and Preschool Education is funded by the Office of Special Education Programs and was established in January 2003 as a five-year project. One of the initiatives of the Center is to conduct research on the level of confidence and competence of personnel working with infants and toddlers with special needs and their families. Information gathered from the Confidence and Competence Survey is presented in this report.

METHODOLOGY

Participants

Individuals who provide direct services in Part C funded programs were the target population for this survey. Part C coordinators from the 50 states, District of Columbia, Virgin Islands, Guam, and Puerto Rico were contacted during the fall of 2006 and spring of 2007 to assist with dissemination of the survey. To recruit the sample of local providers, information about the survey was electronically mailed to state coordinators through the National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC) listserv. Coordinators were asked to forward the survey to Part C service providers. For states that did not have high response rates to the forwarded e-mails from state coordinators, Center staff researched and identified provider agencies. Directors of these local agencies were contacted via e-mail and asked to forward information regarding the survey to staff.

After individuals without licensure or certification were excluded from the analyses, 1,084 Part C service providers representing 46 states and territories participated in this study. States that were not represented included: Arizona, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Tennessee, Guam, and Puerto Rico (see Appendix A for state and territory specific participant information).

Instrumentation

The Confidence and Competence Survey was developed by the Center (see Appendix C for survey). The survey consisted of 47 items, 19 designed to elicit background information and 28 designed to elicit participants' perceived levels of competency and confidence across seven domains. The domains were: family-centered practice; assessment and evaluation; IFSP practices; instructional practices; natural learning environment; collaboration and teaming, and early literacy learning. The 28 non-background items were constructed so that 14 pertained to competency and 14 pertained to confidence. Each item was randomly placed on the survey and was presented with eight response categories. The response categories were: never, rarely, some of the time, more often than not, most of the times, almost always, all the time, and I do not endorse this practice.

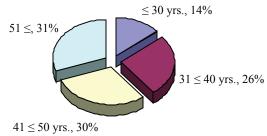
A preliminary exploration of the Competence and Confidence survey was performed using the principal component analysis (PCA) procedure. All survey items were considered except related to early language and literacy. Four principal component analyses were performed (six items each). Three of the four scales produced single factor solutions: competence and confidence regarding process items and competence regarding intervention items. A single factor second order solution representing confidence regarding intervention items was produced. Each of the four scales had good internal consistency, with Carmines Theta ranging from 0.6266 to 0.7952 (see Appendix B for principal component analysis results). Descriptive statistics were calculated for the quantitative data.

RESULTS

Demographics

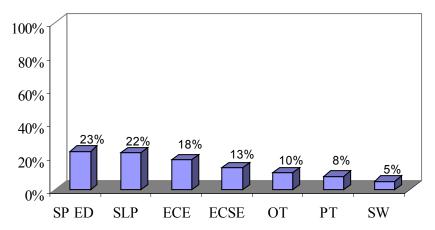
For Part C providers who provided information regarding their highest educational degree attained (n=1,080) a few had a high school or an AA degree (1%), one-third had a bachelor's degree (33%), roughly two-thirds had a master's degree (63%), and a couple had a doctoral degree (3%). Almost all respondents were female (98%) and white (93%). As Figure 1 displays, participant ages varied greatly.

Figure 1. Participant age ranges (n = 1,080)



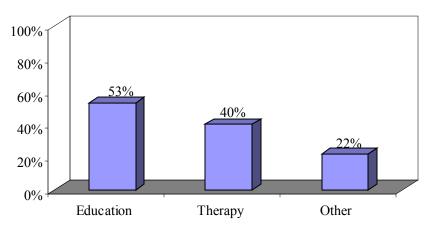
Participants reported their profession and could enter more than one (see Figure 2). Additional professions reported accounting for less than 5% of the sample included: administrators; audiologists; counselors; early interventionists; elementary educators; developmental specialists; developmental therapists; paraprofessionals; parent educators; physicians; service coordinators, and service providers.

Figure 2. Participant professions (n = 1084)



Participants indicated what type of licensure or certification they have and could indicate more than one (see Figure 3). Approximately half of the providers have worked in the field of early intervention (49%) or early childhood special education (48%) for over 10 years.

Figure 3. Type of licensure or certification (n = 1,084)



Perceived Competence and Confidence. Figure 4 depicts how competent and confident Part C service providers perceived themselves to be in the seven domains measured. Table 1 highlights the perceived level of competence of providers representing five professions across the different domains.



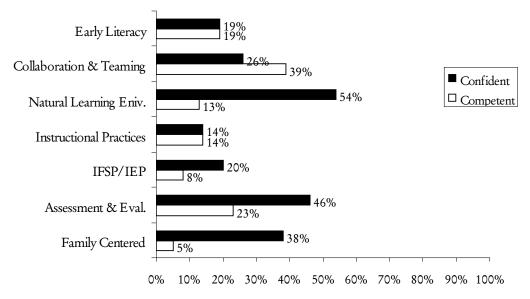


Table 1. Competence Areas by Profession

| | SE/ECSE | | | | |
|------------------|---------|------------|-------------|------------|-----------|
| Type of Practice | (n=384) | EC (n=193) | SLP (n=234) | OT (n=106) | PT (n=89) |
| Family-centered | | | | | |
| practices | 16% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 2% |
| Assessment | | | | | |
| practices | 35% | 31% | 26% | 26% | 26% |
| Achieving IFSP/ | | | | | |
| IEP outcomes | 6% | 8% | 6% | 11% | 12% |
| Instructional | | | | | |
| practices | 13% | 12% | 18% | 7% | 18% |
| Natural | | | | | |
| environments/ | | | | | |
| LRE | 11% | 13% | 18% | 20% | 55% |
| Collaboration/ | | | | | |
| teaming | 42% | 43% | 36% | 25% | 24% |
| Early literacy | 21% | 20% | 25% | 12% | 11% |

Competence and Confidence Results by Item. Each table below reflects participants' percentage responses to two statements relative to competency and two statements relative to confidence for each of the seven domains.

Table 2. Participants' Responses Relative to Their Perceived Competence and Confidence to Engender Family-Centered Practices

| | | | | | Respo | nses | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|-------|--------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------|---|
| Confidence or Competence Iten | n Survey Item | Never | Rarely | Some times | More often than not | Most times | Almost always | Always | I do not endorse this practice |
| Competence | I am able to get the families I work with to obtain supports and resources on their own (n=1,084) | <1% | 5% | 39% | 19% | 27% | 8% | | <1% |
| Competence | Families recognize and use their strengths to improve child outcomes because of how I work with them (n=1,068) | | 1% | 18% | 20% | 36% | 23% | 2% | <1% |
| Confidence | Getting families to talk to me about what is important for them to accomplish comes easy to me (n=1,084) | <1% | 1% | 5% | | 26% | 40% | 15% | |
| Confidence | I am pretty sure that the families I work with will become more empowered because of my work with them (n=1,078) | | 1% | 6% | 11% | 28% | 43% | 12% | |

Assessment and Evaluation.

Table 3. Participants' Responses Relative to Their Perceived Competence and Confidence in Assessment and Evaluation

| | | | | 7 | Respo | nses | | | |
|-----------------|---|-------|--------|-------|---------------|-------|--------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Confidence or | - | | | Some | More often | Most | Almost | | I do not endorse this |
| Competence Iter | m Survey Item | Never | Rarely | times | than not | times | always | Always | practice |
| Competence | I am able to "hit the mark" every time in terms of identifying children's strengths and needs (n=1,078) | | <1% | 6% | 17% | 37% | 36% | 4% | <1% |
| Competence | I am especially proficient at helping parents identify their children's and families' needs and concerns (n=1,072) | <1% | 1% | 8% | 14% | 35% | 36% | 6% | <1% |
| Confidence | I am almost always certain that I will be able to identify and use children's personal interests to improve child learning (n=1,071) | | <1% | 4% | 9% | 24% | 43% | 20% | <1% |
| Confidence | I feel sure that my assessments of children's capabilities are accurate (n=1,074) | | | 3% | 9% | 27% | 53% | 9% | <1% |

Individual Family Service Plan.

Table 4. Participants' Responses Relative to Their Perceived Competence and Confidence in Using Individual Family Service Plans (IFSPs)

| | | | | | Resp | onses | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-------|--------|-------|-----------------------|-------|--------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Confidence or Competence | | | | Some | More often than | Most | Almost | | I do not endorse this |
| Item | Survey Item | Never | Rarely | times | not | times | always | Always | practice |
| Competence | The children with whom I work achieve the majority of their IFSP outcomes in six months or less (n=1,063) | 1% | 7% | 36% | 22% | 22% | 12% | <1% | 1% |
| Competence | I am able to get the families I work with to be key players in identifying IFSP outcomes for their children and themselves (n=1,066) | <1% | 2% | 18% | 15% | 32% | 28% | 5% | 1% |
| Confidence | Writing IFSP outcomes that are functional and meaningful child behavior is a breeze (n=1,062) | 1% | 5% | 24% | 17% | 26% | 22% | 4% | 1% |
| Confidence | It is easy for me to know which child and parent IFSP outcomes are most important to the families I work with (n=1,078) | <1% | 1% | 9% | 10% | 28% | 39% | 13% | <1% |

Instructional Practices.

Table 5. Participants' Responses Relative to Their Perceived Competence and Confidence in Using Instructional Practices

| | | | | | Resp | onses | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-------|--------|-------|-----------------------|-------|--------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Confidence or Competence | | | | Some | More often than | Most | Almost | | I do not endorse this |
| Item | Survey Item | Never | Rarely | times | not | times | always | Always | practice |
| Competence | Because of my efforts, parents and other caregivers are better able to use responsive instructional practices with their children (n=1,047) | <1% | 1% | 17% | 19% | 37% | 23% | 2% | 1% |
| Competence | My efforts getting parents and other caregivers to promote child engagement with people and objects are very successful (n=1,067) | <1% | 1% | 13% | 17% | 41% | 27% | 2% | <1% |
| Confidence | It is easy for me to get parents and other caregivers to use prompting and prompt fading procedures with their children $(n=1,063)$ | 1% | 4% | 32% | 19% | 27% | 13% | 2% | 2% |
| Confidence | It makes me feel good when I see parents using child-initiated and child-directed learning activities (n=1,076) | <1% | | 1% | 2% | 8% | 23% | 66% | <1% |

Natural Learning Environments.

Table 6. Participants' Responses Relative to Their Perceived Competence and Confidence to Use Natural Learning Environments

| | | | | <u> </u> | Resp | onses | | | |
|---------------|---|-------|--------|----------|---------------|-------|--------|--------|---------------------|
| Confidence or | | | | | More often | | | | I do not endorse |
| Competence | | | | Some | than | Most | Almost | | this |
| Item | Survey Item | Never | Rarely | times | not | times | always | Always | practice |
| Competence | I am able to get parents I work with to use everyday family and community activities as sources of child learning opportunities (n=1,070) | <1% | 2% | 26% | 15% | 32% | 22% | 3% | |
| Competence | I am almost always certain that I will be able to identify and use children's personal interests to improve child learning (n=1,061) | <1% | 2% | 16% | 17% | 33% | 27% | 4% | <1% |
| Confidence | I find parents' use of natural child learning opportunities that we identified together professionally rewarding (n=1,072) | <1% | 1% | 5% | 8% | 20% | 26% | 40% | <1% |
| Confidence | I feel that the children I work with benefit a great deal from everyday informal learning opportunities (n=1,078) | | 1% | 5% | 6% | 16% | 32% | 40% | |

Collaboration and Teaming.

Table 7. Participants' Responses Relative to Their Perceived Competence and Confidence in Collaboration and Teaming

| | | | | | Resp | onses | | | |
|---------------|--|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|----------|
| | | | | | More | | | | I do not |
| Confidence or | | | | | often | | | | endorse |
| Competence | | | | Some | than | Most | Almost | | this |
| Item | Survey Item | Never | Rarely | times | not | times | always | Always | practice |
| Competence | I am able to successfully implement interdisciplinary interventions taught to me by professionals from other disciplines (n=1,073) | <1% | 1% | 9% | 11% | 30% | 38% | 10% | 1% |
| Competence | Jointly planning and implementing interventions with other professionals insures that the children I work with get the right kind of practices (n=1,074) | 1% | <1% | 5% | 7% | 20% | 39% | 28% | <1% |
| Confidence | Helping other team members do what I do best (role release) makes me feel good about the interventions children and families receive (n=1,069) | <1% | 2% | 11% | 7% | 21% | 31% | 27% | 2% |
| Confidence | I am able to get families to be key players in identifying IFSP outcomes (n=1,061) | | 1% | 14% | 14% | 32% | 30% | 8% | 1% |

Early Literacy Learning.

Table 8. Participants' Responses Relative to Their Perceived Competence and Confidence in Early Literacy and Learning

| | | | | | Resp | onses | | | |
|---------------|---|-------|--------|---------------|------|-------|--------|--------|---------------------|
| Confidence or | | | | More often | | | | | I do not endorse |
| Competence | | | | Some | than | Most | Almost | | this |
| Item | Survey Item | Never | Rarely | times | not | times | always | Always | practice |
| Competence | I make sure I help parents and other caregivers understand and use emergent literacy learning activities with their children (n=1,053) | 1% | 3% | 16% | 13% | 27% | 26% | 14% | 1% |
| Competence | I am able to get parents to understand why parent/child sound and word games are important for children's early literacy learning (n=1,065) | 1% | 2% | 22% | 20% | 28% | 23% | 3% | 1% |
| Confidence | I am pretty good at helping parents provide their children early literacy learning experiences (n=1,071) | 1% | 2% | 10% | 9% | 29% | 36% | 13% | 1% |
| Confidence | Including pre-reading and pre- writing outcomes on children's IFSPs comes natural to me (n=1,047) | 2% | 11% | 23% | 14% | 21% | 19% | 6% | 4% |

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Number of Participants by State or Territory

Part C Providers

| Alabama | 9 |
|----------------|-----|
| Alaska | 5 |
| Arkansas | 11 |
| California | 19 |
| Colorado | 31 |
| Connecticut | 9 |
| Delaware | 3 |
| Florida | 15 |
| Georgia | 23 |
| Idaho | 4 |
| Illinois | 7 |
| Indiana | 61 |
| lowa | 23 |
| Kansas | 44 |
| Kentucky | 38 |
| Maine | 8 |
| Maryland | 31 |
| Michigan | 7 |
| Minnesota | 107 |
| Mississippi | 8 |
| Missouri | 36 |
| Montana | 7 |
| Nebraska | 13 |
| Nevada | 12 |
| New Hampshire | 17 |
| New Mexico | 18 |
| New York | 38 |
| North Carolina | 40 |
| North Dakota | 19 |
| Ohio | 44 |
| Oklahoma | 2 |

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| Oregon 26 Pennsylvania 58 Rhode Island 4 South Carolina 19 South Dakota 11 Texas 65 Utah 9 Vermont 6 Virgin Islands 1 Virginia 22 Washington 33 West Virginia 23 Wisconsin 53 Wyoming 6 | | |
|---|----------------|------|
| Rhode Island 4 South Carolina 19 South Dakota 11 Texas 65 Utah 9 Vermont 6 Virgin Islands 1 Virginia 22 Washington 33 West Virginia 23 Wisconsin 53 Wyoming 6 | Oregon | 26 |
| South Carolina 19 South Dakota 11 Texas 65 Utah 9 Vermont 6 Virgin Islands 1 Virginia 22 Washington 33 West Virginia 23 Wisconsin 53 Wyoming 6 | Pennsylvania | 58 |
| South Dakota 11 Texas 65 Utah 9 Vermont 6 Virgin Islands 1 Virginia 22 Washington 33 West Virginia 23 Wisconsin 53 Wyoming 6 | Rhode Island | 4 |
| Texas 65 Utah 9 Vermont 6 Virgin Islands 1 Virginia 22 Washington 33 West Virginia 23 Wisconsin 53 Wyoming 6 | South Carolina | 19 |
| Utah9Vermont6Virgin Islands1Virginia22Washington33West Virginia23Wisconsin53Wyoming6 | South Dakota | 11 |
| Vermont6Virgin Islands1Virginia22Washington33West Virginia23Wisconsin53Wyoming6 | Texas | 65 |
| Virgin Islands1Virginia22Washington33West Virginia23Wisconsin53Wyoming6 | Utah | 9 |
| Virginia22Washington33West Virginia23Wisconsin53Wyoming6 | Vermont | 6 |
| Washington 33 West Virginia 23 Wisconsin 53 Wyoming 6 | Virgin Islands | 1 |
| West Virginia 23 Wisconsin 53 Wyoming 6 | Virginia | 22 |
| Wisconsin 53 Wyoming 6 | Washington | 33 |
| Wyoming 6 | West Virginia | 23 |
| | Wisconsin | 53 |
| | Wyoming | 6 |
| Total 1045 | Total | 1045 |

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Principal Component Analysis Results

| Factor | Internal Consistency: Carmines Theta | Survey Item Indicator | Survey Item | Rotated Factor Loadings |
|------------------------|---|------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Process: Competence | 0.7782 | Collaboration | I am able to successfully implement interdisciplinary intervention taught to me by professionals from other disciplines. | 0.680 |
| | | Collaboration and Teaming | Jointly planning and implementing interventions with other professionals insures that the children I work with get the right kind of practices. | 0.602 |
| | | Family Centered | I am able to get the families I work with to be actively involved in obtaining needed supports and resources. | 0.659 |
| | | Practices | Families I work with recognize and use their strengths because of how I work with them. | 0.749 |
| | | Assessment | I am able to "hit the mark" every time in terms of identifying children's strengths and needs. | 0.692 |
| | | and Evaluation | I am especially proficient at helping parents identify their children's and families' needs and concerns. | .0738 |
| Process: Confidence | 0.7282 | Collaboration | Helping other team members do what I do best (role release) makes me feel good about the interventions children and families receive. | 0.425 |
| | | and Teaming | Getting parents and other caregivers to be meaningfully involved in IFSP development and implementation comes easy to me. | 0.700 |
| | | Family | Getting families to tell me what is important for them to accomplish comes easy to me. | 0.713 |
| | | Centered Practices | I feel pretty much assured that the families I work with become more empowered. | 0.722 |
| | | Assessment and Evaluation | I am almost always certain that I will be able to identify children's personal interests. | 0.596 |
| | | and Evaluation | I feel sure that my assessments of children's capabilities are accurate. | 0.699 |

Appendix B Page 16

| Factor | Internal Consistency: Carmines Theta | Survey Item Indicator | Survey Item | | d Factor dings |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|-------|-------------------|
| Intervention: Competence | 0.7952 | Instructional | Because of my efforts with families, parents and other caregivers are better able to use responsive and supportive instructional practices with their children. | 0.725 | |
| | | Practices | My efforts getting parents and other caregivers to promote child engagement with people and objects are very successful. | 0.762 | |
| | | Natural | I am able to get parents I work with to use everyday family and community activities as sources of child leaning opportunities. | 0.6 | 674 |
| | | Leaning Environments | Because of my efforts, the important of interest-based child learning is understood and valued by the families with whom I work. | 0.7 | 778 |
| | | IFOD | The children who I work with achieve the majority of their IFSP outcomes in three months or less. | 0.5 | 554 |
| | | IFSP | I am able to get the families I work with to be key players in identifying IFSP outcomes. | 0.701 | |
| | | | | 1 | 2 |
| Intervention: Confidence | 0.6266 | Instructional Practices | It makes me feel good when I see parents using child-initiated and child-directed learning activities. | 0.846 | 0.000 |
| | | Natural Leaning Environments | I find parents' use of natural child learning opportunities that we identified together especially professionally rewarding. | 0.718 | 0.000 |
| | | Natural Leaning Environments | I feel that children's everyday informal learning is just as important as sit-and-teach interventions. | 0.641 | 0.000 |
| | | Instructional Practices | It is easy for me to get parents and other caregivers to use prompting and prompt fading procedures with their children. | 0.000 | 0.727 |
| | | IFSP | Writing IFSP outcomes that re functional and meaningful is a breeze. | 0.000 | 0.718 |
| | | IFSP | It is easy for me to know which child and parent IFSP outcomes are most important to the families I work with. | 0.000 | 0.679 |

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Survey

| EARLY | CIIII BUIGOB | CDECIAL | EDUCATION/ | EARLY | INTERVENTION | PRACTITIONER | SALE |
|-------|--------------|---------|------------|-------|--------------|--------------|------|
| | | | | | | | |

Please answer the following questions by thinking about the children and families you have worked with during

| the past s the tasks. | ix months. Mark the response that best describes how well you were able to do or accomplish each of |
|--------------------------|---|
| | ther team members do what I do best (role release) makes me feel good about the interventions nd families receive |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | Almost Always |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |
| It is easy | for me to know which child and parent IFSP outcomes are most important to the families I work with |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | Almost Always |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |
| I am prett | y good at helping parents provide their children early literacy learning experiences |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | Almost Always |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |

| A | ppendix C | Page 18 |
|----------|---|---------|
| | | |
| It is ea | sy for me to use prompting and prompt fading procedures with children | |
| | | |
| | Never | |
| | Rarely | |
| | Some of the Time | |
| | More Often than Not | |
| | Most Times | |
| | Almost Always | |
| | All the Time | |
| | ☐ I Do Not Endorse This Practice | |
| I am e | pecially proficient at identifying children's and families' needs and concerns | |
| | □ Never | |
| | □ Rarely | |
| | □ Some of the Time | |
| | ☐ More Often than Not | |
| | ☐ Most Times | |
| | □ Almost Always | |
| | ☐ All the Time | |
| | ☐ I Do Not Endorse This Practice | |
| My eff | rts at promoting child engagement with people and objects are very successful | |
| | □ Never | |
| | □ Rarely | |
| | Some of the Time | |
| | □ More Often than Not | |
| | □ Most Times | |
| | □ Almost Always | |
| | □ All the Time | |
| | ☐ I Do Not Endorse This Practice | |
| I am a | le to use everyday family and community activities as sources of child learning opportunities | |
| | □ Never | |
| | | |
| | □ Rarely □ Some of the Time | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | □ Almost Always □ All the Time | |
| | | |
| | ☐ I Do Not Endorse This Practice | |

Getting families to talk to me about what is important for their children to accomplish comes easy to me Never Rarely Some of the Time More Often than Not Most Times Almost Always All the Time I Do Not Endorse This Practice I am able to successfully implement interdisciplinary interventions taught to me by professionals from other disciplines Never Rarely Some of the Time More Often than Not Most Times Almost Always All the Time I Do Not Endorse This Practice The children with whom I work achieve the majority of their IEP outcomes in a year or less ■ Never □ Rarely Some of the Time More Often than Not Most Times Almost Always All the Time I Do Not Endorse This Practice I find teaching in inclusive settings professionally rewarding Never Rarely Some of the Time More Often than Not Most Times Almost Always All the Time I Do Not Endorse This Practice

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Appendix C

| Арр | endix C Page 20 |
|-------------|---|
| | |
| I feel sure | e that my assessments of children's capabilities are accurate |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | Almost Always |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |
| I am able | to get the families I work with to obtain supports and resources on their own |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | Almost Always |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |
| I am able | to get parents to understand why parent/child sound and word games are important for children's early |
| literacy le | |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | Almost Always |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |
| It makes | me feel good when I use child-initiated and child-directed learning activities |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | Almost Always |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |

| Арр | endix C | Page 21 |
|--------------|--|----------|
| | | |
| I am prett | ty sure that the families I work with will become more empowered because of my work with them | |
| | | |
| | Never | |
| | Rarely | |
| | Some of the Time More Often than Not | |
| | Most Times | |
| | Almost Always | |
| | All the Time | |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice | |
| | 1 DO NOT Elidorse This Fractice | |
| I am able | to "hit the mark" every time in terms of identifying children's strengths and needs | |
| | Never | |
| | Rarely | |
| | Some of the Time | |
| | More Often than Not | |
| | Most Times | |
| | Almost Always | |
| | All the Time | |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice | |
| Jointly pla | anning and implementing interventions with other professionals insures that the children I work with | aet |
| | kind of practices | J |
| | Nover | |
| | Never | |
| | Rarely Some of the Time | |
| | More Often than Not | |
| | Most Times | |
| | Almost Always | |
| _ | All the Time | |
| _ | I Do Not Endorse This Practice | |
| \\/riting IF | | |
| vvriung ir- | FSP outcomes that are functional and meaningful child behavior is a breeze | |
| | Never | |
| | Rarely | |
| | Some of the Time | |
| | More Often than Not | |
| | Most Times | |
| | Almost Always | |
| | All the Time | |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice | |

| Арр | endix C Page 22 |
|------------------------|--|
| | |
| Including | pre-reading and prewriting outcomes on children's IFSPs comes natural to me |
| moluding | pre-reading and prewning outcomes on children's it of 3 comes natural to me |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | Almost Always |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |
| Because of their child | of my efforts, parents and other caregivers are better able to use responsive instructional practices with ren |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | Almost Always |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |
| Families r | ecognize and use their strengths to improve child outcomes because of how I work with them |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | Almost Always |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |
| I am able | to get the families I work with to be key players in identifying IFSP outcomes for their children and |
| | |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | All the Time |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |

| Арр | endix C Page 23 |
|-----------------------|---|
| | |
| I feel that | the children I work with benefit a great deal from everyday informal learning opportunities |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | Almost Always |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |
| I am almo learning | ost always certain that I will be able to identify and use children's personal interests to improve child |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | |
| | |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |
| l make si | are I help parents and other caregivers understand and use emergent literacy learning activities with |
| their child | |
| trion orme | |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | Almost Always |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |
| Getting p | arents and other interventionists to be meaningfully involved in IFSP development and implementation |
| comes ea | asy to me |
| | Never |
| | Rarely |
| | Some of the Time |
| | More Often than Not |
| | Most Times |
| | Almost Always |
| | All the Time |
| | I Do Not Endorse This Practice |

Appendix C Page 24 Because of my efforts, the importance of interest-based child learning is understood and valued by the families with whom I work ■ Never □ Rarely Some of the Time ■ More Often than Not Most Times Almost Always □ All the Time □ I Do Not Endorse This Practice BACKGROUND INFORMATION Education Highest Degree: □ High School □ AA ■ BA/BS ■ MA/MS □ Ph.D/Ed.D/PsyD. □ Other _____ Profession: □ Special Education ■ Early Childhood Education Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy □ Speech/Language Pathology ■ Social Work Psychology □ Other State License/Certification:

□ Education _____
□ Therapy ____
□ Other ____

| How well did your professional education program prepare you to work with young children with disabilities? |
|---|
| □ Not at All |
| □ A Little |
| □ Somewhat |
| □ Very Well |
| How well did your professional education program prepare you to work with families of young children with disabilities? |
| □ Not at All |
| □ A Little |
| □ Somewhat |
| □ Very Well |
| |
| Experience |
| Years Working in Early Childhood Special Education: |
| □ Less than 1 |
| □ 1-5 |
| □ 6-10 |
| □ 11-15 |
| □ 16-20 |
| □ 21-25 |
| □ Other |
| Years Working with Early Childhood Special Education with Disabilities: |
| |
| Less than 1 |
| □ 1-5 □ 0.40 |
| □ 6-10 |
| □ 11-15 □ 40-00 |
| □ 16-20 |
| □ 21-25 |
| Other |
| |
| How many children do you work with, on average, per week? |
| |
| How many children are on your caseload? |

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| Is your caseload: |
|--|
| □ Too Few |
| ☐ Just Right |
| □ Too Many |
| |
| Inservice Training |
| Does your State Department of Special Education require you to have continuing education credits in order to keep teaching in Early Childhood Special Education? |
| □ No |
| □ Yes |
| If Yes, how many credits per year? |
| |
| Does your professional licensing or certification board require you to have continuing education credits? |
| □ No |
| □ Yes |
| If Yes, how many credits per year? |
| Does your State require you to obtain some type of Early Childhood Special Education program certificate or credential? |
| □ No |
| □ Yes |
| If Yes, how many training hours are required? |
| |
| Which of the following are the primary ways you receive inservice training? |
| □ Lectures/Presentations |
| □ Half Day Workshops |
| □ Full Day Workshops |
| □ Attending Conferences |
| On the Job Mentoring/Coaching |
| □ Clinical Supervision |
| □ Web Based Training/Instruction |
| □ DVD Based Training/Instruction |
| □ College or University Courses |
| □ Other |

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| | the inservice training approaches do you find most helpful in terms of improving your skills working with disabilities and their families? |
|------------|--|
| | Lectures/Presentations |
| | Half Day Workshops |
| | Full Day Workshops |
| | Attending Conferences |
| | On the Job Mentoring/Coaching |
| | Clinical Supervision |
| | Web Based Training/Instruction |
| | DVD Based Training/Instruction |
| | College or University Courses |
| | Other |
| Backgrou | und Information |
| Gender: | |
| | Female |
| | Male |
| Age (Year | s): |
| | 18-20 |
| | 21-25 |
| | 26-30 |
| | 31-35 |
| | 36-40 |
| | 41-45 |
| | 46-50 |
| | 51-55 |
| | 56-60 |
| | Other |
| Ethnicity: | |
| | African American |
| | American Indian |
| | Asian |
| | Latino |
| | Multi-racial |
| | White |
| | Other |
| | |

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State or territory in which you provide Early Childhood Special Education Services:

| Alabama | Illinois | П | Nebraska | South Carolina |
|----------------------|---------------|---|----------------|----------------|
| Alaska | Indiana | | Nevada | South Dakota |
| Arizona | Iowa | | New Hampshire | Tennessee |
| Arkansas | Kansas | П | New Jersey | Texas |
| California | Kentucky | | New Mexico | Utah |
| Colorado | Louisiana | | New York | Vermont |
| Connecticut | Maine | | North Carolina | Virgin Islands |
| Delaware | Maryland | | North Dakota | Virginia |
| District of Columbia | Massachusetts | | Ohio | Washington |
| Florida | Michigan | | Oklahoma | West Virginia |
| Georgia | Minnesota | | Oregon | Wisconsin |
| Guam | Mississippi | | Pennsylvania | Wyoming |
| Hawaii | Missouri | | Puerto Rico | |
| Idaho | Montana | | Rhode Island | |
| | | | | |