

Commonly Used Acronyms & Definitions found on the DPH website

CEIS Certification for Early Intervention Specialists - a process for Certification for Early Intervention Specialists (CEIS) is in place to ensure that all personnel working in EI achieve a set of core competencies

CSPD Comprehensive System of Personnel Development - is a requirement of Part C of the IDEA and includes the training of paraprofessionals and primary referral sources. CSPD includes implementing strategies and activities for recruitment and retention of early education service providers and promoting the preparation of early intervention providers who are fully and appropriately qualified including training personnel to coordinate transition services for infants and toddlers

DPECSHN Division for Perinatal, Early Childhood & Special Health Needs

DPH Department of Public Health - DPH serves all the people in the Commonwealth, particularly the underserved, and promotes healthy people, healthy families, healthy communities and healthy lifestyles

EI Early Intervention – Provides family centered services to help children who qualify to develop the skills they will need to continue to grow into happy and healthy members of the community

EITC Early Intervention Training Center - provides support and professional development opportunities to the Massachusetts Early Intervention (EI) community

FERPA Family Education Rights and Privacy Act – gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records

ICC Interagency Coordinating Council – a federally mandated under IDEA council created to advise and assist the collaborating agencies in carrying out the provisions of the state early intervention system

IDEA Individuals with Disabilities Education Act - is the law ensuring services to children with disabilities throughout the nation

IFSP Individualized Family Service Plan – documents and guides the early intervention process for children with disabilities and their families

LEA Local Education Agency (or school system) – the local school system in the city/town in which the child lives

MCH Maternal Child Health – works with the local public health departments, community based organizations, statewide organizations

OSEP Office of Special Education Programs (*U.S. Department of Education*) – is dedicated to improving results for infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities

OSERS Office of Special Education & Rehabilitative Services (*U.S. Department of Education*)

PART B Special Education (ages 3 to 22) of IDEA – section of IDEA law that refers to students ages 3 to 22

PART C Early Intervention (birth to three) of IDEA – section of IDEA law that refers specifically to early intervention

PCAS Provisional Certification with Advanced Standing – is granted to through the Department of Public Health to graduates of DPH-approved higher education programs in early intervention

SPP State Performance Plan – The IDEA 2004 requires all states to have an SPP that evaluates the state's efforts to implement the requirements and purposes of IDEA and describes how the state will improve student performance/achievement

SSP Specialty Service Provider – agencies with providers who specialize in providing services to children with specialized needs