



Child's Name:

Date of Birth:

*A program certified by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health*

### Consent for Evaluation/Assessment

To determine if your child is eligible for Early Intervention (EI), the EI staff must complete an evaluation/assessment. The EI Team will use a formal evaluation tool to look at all areas of development. They will ask about your child's development and if you have any concerns. The EI Team might ask to talk with other people who know your child or observe your child in other settings.

The evaluation/assessment will include looking at all areas of development. The team will look at cognitive, physical (including health, vision, hearing), communication, adaptive/self-help and social/emotional development. The team may ask for your permission to look at medical, developmental or birth records. This helps the EI Team see if other eligibility factors exist. As a parent, you choose the information you want to share. If you agree to parts of the evaluation/assessment, the EI staff may not be able to determine eligibility. For example, if you agree to an evaluation/assessment of development but choose not to provide information about your child and family, the EI team may not be able to determine if your child is eligible.

An assessment gathers information about your child and/or family. It is a way to look at the ongoing strengths and needs of your child and/or family. Assessments can happen at the same time as an evaluation. Even though an evaluation and assessment may look the same, an assessment can happen anytime and does not determine eligibility for Early Intervention Services.

Early Intervention services are voluntary. If you want an evaluation/assessment to see if your child is eligible, you will need to give your consent. "Consent" means that you agree to the evaluation/assessment. You can choose to give consent to have the evaluation/assessment billed to your insurance. The Department of Public Health will pay any cost that is not covered by insurance.

**The Early Intervention Program proposes to complete:**

- An evaluation/assessment to determine eligibility, strengths and needs of the child.
- A family-directed assessment to determine concerns, priorities and resources.
- A child assessment to determine on-going strengths and needs.

**I understand that my consent is voluntary and that I can choose not to have my child evaluated or participate in a family-directed assessment even after signing this form. I understand that if I choose not to consent to the evaluation/assessment the EI program may not be able to determine eligibility for my child to receive Early Intervention services.**

Parent Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Please read the **Massachusetts Early Intervention and You** family rights notice. It explains your right to file a complaint, request mediation or a hearing if you disagree with what the EI program has proposed or refused. If you have questions, please call the program. The EI staff is happy to answer questions. You may also call the Department of Public Health at the phone number on the family rights notice for information or help understanding your rights.