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Early Education and Care

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Policy Title: Itinerant Team Educational Service Provision in Child Care Programs

Policy Number: FO-25-04

Release Date: August 13, 2025

Effective Date: September 1, 2025

Policy Link: [https://www.mass.gov/doc/eecfo-25-04itinerant-team-servicespolicy/download]

OVERVIEW

The Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) supports the full inclusion of children with disabilities across all settings regulated by the agency, ensuring that children with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) have access to required supports without barriers through itinerant services.

EEC promotes collaborative partnerships between child care programs and local school districts through Itinerant Teams, professionals who provide services to preschool-aged children with IEPs and support inclusive learning environments in community-based child care programs. In addition to providing IEP-based services tailored to meet the needs of an individual child, Itinerant Teams often provide general education support and instruction for the full group of children during their child care program visits.

This policy outlines the requirements that school districts, Itinerant Teams, and community-based child care programs must follow as they facilitate itinerant services.

APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all licensed and funded community-based child care programs participating in Public School Itinerant Team services.

KEY TOPICS

- Public school district-child care program memorandum of understanding (MOU) requirements
- EEC background record check (BRC) rules
- Parent/guardian consent and notification requirements
- Itinerant Team service stipulations
- Abuse and neglect complaint rules

RESOURCES

- Licensed Group and School Age Program Staff Records Checklist (September 2025 update forthcoming)
- Funded Center-Based Program Staff Records Checklist (September 2025 update forthcoming)
- **Consent Form for Parent/Guardian: Child Receiving IEP Services from an Itinerant Team**: Child care providers can adapt this sample Consent Form for their program
- **Notification and Opt-Out Form for Parent/Guardian: Itinerant Team Services:** Child care providers can adapt this sample Notification and Opt-Out Form for their program