

A Family's Guide to Primary Service Provider Approach to Teaming



The primary service provider (PSP) approach to teaming is using a multidisciplinary team in which one member is selected as the PSP. The PSP serves as a liaison between the family and other team members. The PSP receives coaching from other team members. Coaching is used with parents and other caregivers to support and strengthen their abilities in promoting child learning and development within daily routines and activities and obtaining desired supports and resources.



WHO IS THE PSP?

The primary service provider (PSP) can be anyone who is part of the early intervention team. The team decides which member is best match for the child and family based upon 4 factors: (1) parent/family, (2) child, (3) environmental and safety considerations (4) practitioner.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE PSP?

The role of the PSP is to provide early intervention services for the child and family, with consultation, support, and/or coaching from other team members. The PSP should change as infrequently as possible. The PSP may change in situations where the team, which includes the family, determines that another team member would be a more appropriate PSP.

OTHER TEAM MEMBERS ROLES?

All team members attend regular meetings in order to provide and receive colleague-to-colleague coaching and support, and to ensure that the child and family are making progress toward all IFSP outcomes. In addition to discussion, many teams use technology, such as video recordings and video conferencing, to allow for observation of individual child and family situations at these meetings.

JOINT VISITS

The child and family should have access to all team members as needed via team meetings and joint visits. Joint visits should be conducted if the family requests direct access to another team member, or when the PSP or another team member has questions that can only be answered with direct observation from a non-PSP team member. During a joint visit, a team member will provide coaching or support to the child's parents, caregivers, and PSP.

ONGOING SUPPORT

After the joint visit(s), the child's parents and caregivers will continue to receive ongoing support and guidance from the PSP so that they can implement meaningful strategies during their child's naturally occurring daily routines and activities.