

TENNESSEE EARLY INTERVENTION SYSTEM (TEIS)



OVERVIEW

- Tennessee Early Intervention System offers therapy and services for infants and young children with developmental delays or disabilities.
- TEIS provides services as outlined in Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).



TEIS BASICS

- Employs more than 200 people statewide and will expand to close to 300 people in fiscal year 2023
- Contracts with hundreds of agencies, therapists, and early interventionists
- Averages 20,000 child referrals per year

POINT OF ENTRY OFFICES

West TN Region

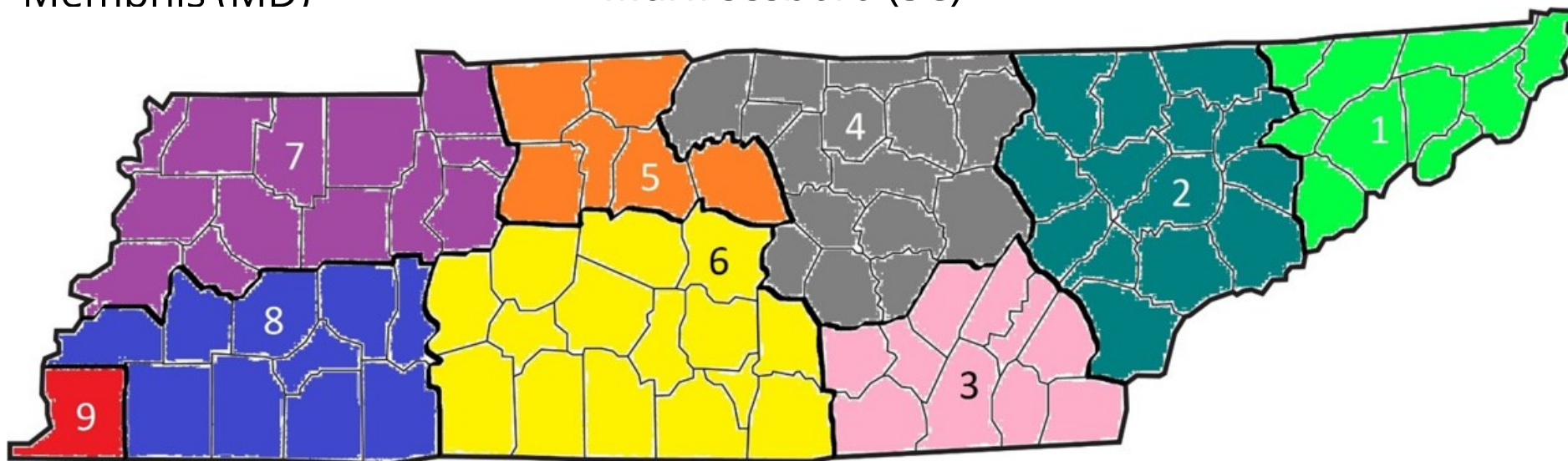
- Northwest – Martin (NW)
- Southwest – Jackson (SW)
- Memphis Delta – Memphis (MD)

Middle TN Region

- Upper Cumberland – Cookeville (UC)
- Greater Nashville – Nashville (GN)
- South Central – Murfreesboro (SC)

East TN Region

- First TN – Johnson City (FT)
- East – Knoxville (ET)
- Southeast – Chattanooga (SE)



MAKING A REFERRAL

- Online referral form via the TEIS website:
<http://tn.gov/didd/teis>
- Call the point of entry office that provides services for the child's county of residence
- Call the TEIS Referral line: 1-800-852-7157
- Download the MyTN app

The screenshot shows the DIDD website with the following elements:

- Header:** TN Department of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities. Search bar: Try Search, ex: How to become a provider.
- Navigation:** Community Services, Councils, Provider Resources, Divisions, News, About DIDD, Contact Information.
- Banners:** COVID-19 INFORMATION, COVID-19 & POTENTIAL IMPACTS, APPLY FOR THE KATIE BECKETT PROGRAM!
- Left Sidebar (Community Services):**
 - Case Management
 - Employment First
 - Enabling Technology
 - Family Support Program
 - HCBS Settings Rule
 - Seating & Positioning
 - DIDD Waiver Information
 - ABLE TN
 - Pre-Admission Screening Resident Review
 - Outreach
 - TEIS**
 - Information for Parents
 - Frequently Asked Questions
 - Info for Vendors & EIRAs
 - TEIS Advisory Councils
 - Reports & Data
 - Family Resources
 - Complaint Resolution
 - TRI-STARTS Newsletter Sign Up
 - TEIS Eligibility Information
 - Building Best Practice
 - TN START Assessment & Stabilization
 - Other Consumer Resources
 - TN START AST
 - Program Innovation

- Main Content Area:**
- Tennessee Early Intervention System**
- Grid of links: TEIS Advisory Councils, Family Resources, Frequently Asked Questions, Info for Vendors & EIRAs, Information for Parents, Reports & Data.
- TRI-STARTS NEWSLETTER SIGN UP**
- Text: The Tennessee Early Intervention System (TEIS) is a program that provides... children ages birth up to age three who have disabilities or other developmental delays. The TEIS program is a critically important program to supporting young children and their families to reach their optimal development.
- Refer a child to TEIS** (highlighted with an orange arrow):
 - You may make a referral to TEIS by completing our online referral form or by calling (800) 852-7157. The referral form can also be found in the MyTN app, available on your app store.
 - Please be prepared to provide the child's name, date of birth, county of residence, parent information (if someone other than the parent calls), and reason for referral.

TEIS REFERRALS

- The medical community is the largest referral source, making up more than half of all TEIS referrals
- Department of Children's Services (DCS) submit nearly one quarter of all TEIS referrals
 - Federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) requires all children with substantiated cases of abuse/neglect be evaluated for disabilities/delays
- Parents/family members are third largest referral source
- Community agencies make up the smallest referral category (e.g. childcare)
- The average age of a child referred to TEIS is 15 months



TEIS: WHO IS ELIGIBLE

- A child must demonstrate one or more of the following criteria to be eligible for services:
 - Diagnosis of one or more specific conditions likely to result in a developmental delay. Diagnostic list: <https://www.tn.gov/didd/for-consumers/tennessee-early-intervention-system-teis/eligibility-information.html>
 - 25% delay in two developmental areas: motor, communication, cognition, social, and adaptive OR
 - 40% delay in one developmental area
- Eligibility is determined through a multi-disciplinary approach, including a review of medical records.
- Eligibility evaluators are employed by agencies contracted through the state.



DEVELOPING A PLAN



- Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)
- Identifies supports and services to address family priorities
- Supports the child's participation in daily activities
- Reviewed by the team of service providers, parents, and service coordinator, at a minimum of every 6 months

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

Basic services include:

- Service coordination
- Evaluation
- Assessment
- Developmental Therapy
- Family Training and Counseling
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Vision/Hearing Services
- Assistive Technology
- Transportation
- Psychological Evaluations

HOW SERVICES ARE DELIVERED

- Early intervention services focus on learning strategies that are carried out by the parent in their typical daily routines at home. There is emphasis placed on coaching the caregiver.
 - Families are active participants
 - Strategies are embedded into daily routines
 - Support is based on caregiver priorities



COST OF SERVICES

- Services are provided at no cost to families.
- The program is supported through state and federal funds, Medicaid, and private insurance.
- Eligibility evaluations and coordination of services are provided at no cost.
- If services are recommended, then the service coordinator will discuss consent to access the child's insurance with the family.



TRANSITIONING

- The child will either no longer require services OR be referred to their local school district.
- A Transition Planning Conference (TPC) is held prior to the child's third birthday.
- If a child is determined eligible an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) meeting is held.



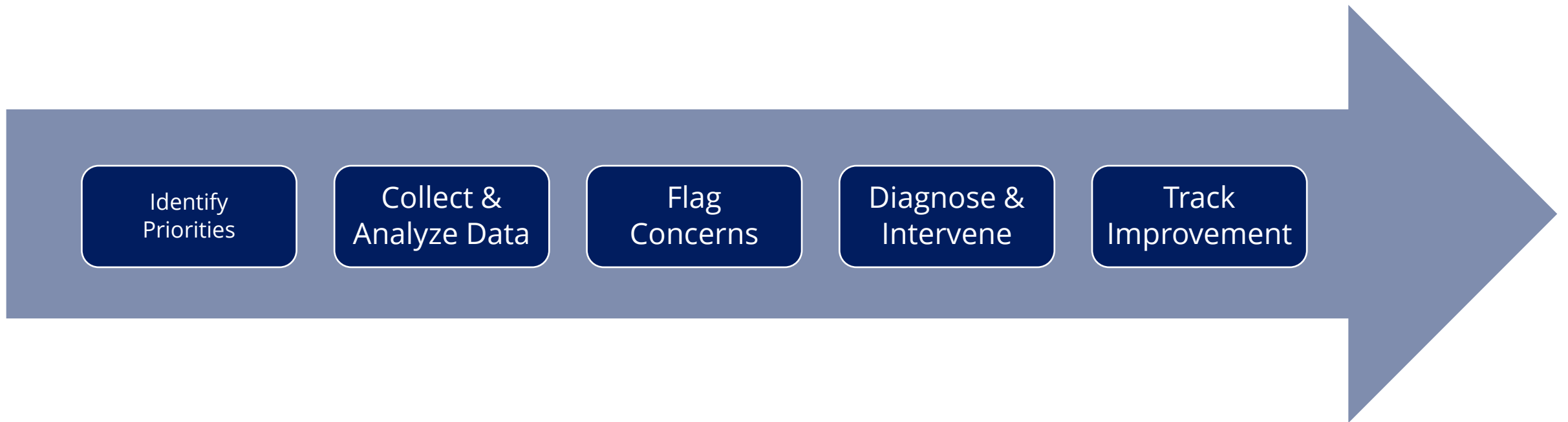
TEIS EXTENDED OPTION

- Governor Bill Lee included extending TEIS services to serve children up to the age of 4 in his Fiscal Year 2023 budget.
- Families of eligible children will have the choice to continue with TEIS services to the beginning of the school year after child's 4th birthday.
- This extension will offer families an additional option to consider as they help their child prepare for school.
- Families can also choose to transition their child, if eligible, to special education services through their local school system when the child turns 3.
- The TEIS Extended Option will implement in Fall 2022.
- Children turning 3 prior to Fall 2022 will follow current transition planning processes.

TEIS COMPREHENSIVE MONITORING PLAN



What is the TEIS monitoring process?





Identify Priorities

**Collect & Analyze
Data**

Flag Concerns

Diagnose & Intervene

Track Improvement



Priority Areas for 2022-23 Monitoring



Identify Priorities

Collect & Analyze
Data

Flag Concerns

Diagnose & Intervene

Track Improvement



Compliance

Priority: To ensure early intervention services are delivered timely.

Priority: To process referrals, determine eligibility, and write a plan for services in a timely manner.

Priority: To empower families to make timely and informed decisions about programs/services available after age three.

Priority: To be determined

Results

Priority: To ensure eligible children are identified and receive services.

Priority: To ensure children receive services long enough to demonstrate measurable progress.

Priority: To give every family the opportunity to have their voice heard.



Identify Priorities

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Track Improvement

Data Variables for 2022-23 Monitoring



Compliance

Timely Service Delivery
(Indicator 1)

Timely Initial IFSP
(Indicator 7)

Timely Transition Planning Conference
(Indicator 8c)

To be determined

October Compliance Data

TBD

Results

Child Find

Referrals; Referral to IFSP efficiency

Early Childhood Outcomes

ECO data completeness; Child retention and reasons for early exiting

Family Outcomes

Family survey response rate distribution across POE staff



Identify Priorities

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Flag Thresholds for 2022-23 Monitoring

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Results Flags

Child Find

- Proportion of referrals for POE < Proportion of same-age population for POE
- Average age of referrals >15 months
- Percent of total referrals resulting in IFSPs is <35%
- Percent of eligible referrals resulting in IFSPs <75%

Early Childhood Outcomes

- 3-year average of ECO data completeness is <65%
- 3-year average of children not having usable ECO ratings due to exiting with fewer than 6 months of service for reasons of parent withdrawal or loss of contact is >60%

Family Outcomes

- <50% of SCs in POE met target response rate of 75% in HOPE survey
- Response rate for any SC with caseload = 0% in HOPE survey

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Flag Concerns

Diagnose & Intervene

Track Improvement

Diagnosis and Intervention

Identify Priorities

Collect & Analyze
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Flag Concerns

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What happens after POEs have
been flagged?



Identify Priorities

Collect & Analyze
Data

Flag Concerns

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Results

POEs identified for one of three levels of intervention based on total number of flags:

Tier 3

Tier 2

Tier 1



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Tier 1:

Local planning may focus on any area of interest.



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Tier 2:

Local improvement plan developed and submitted for approval. Plan must address targeted areas. Support and technical assistance available upon request.



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Tier 3:

Technical assistance provided to support root cause analysis and development of focused improvement plan to address targeted areas.

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Results Improvement Planning

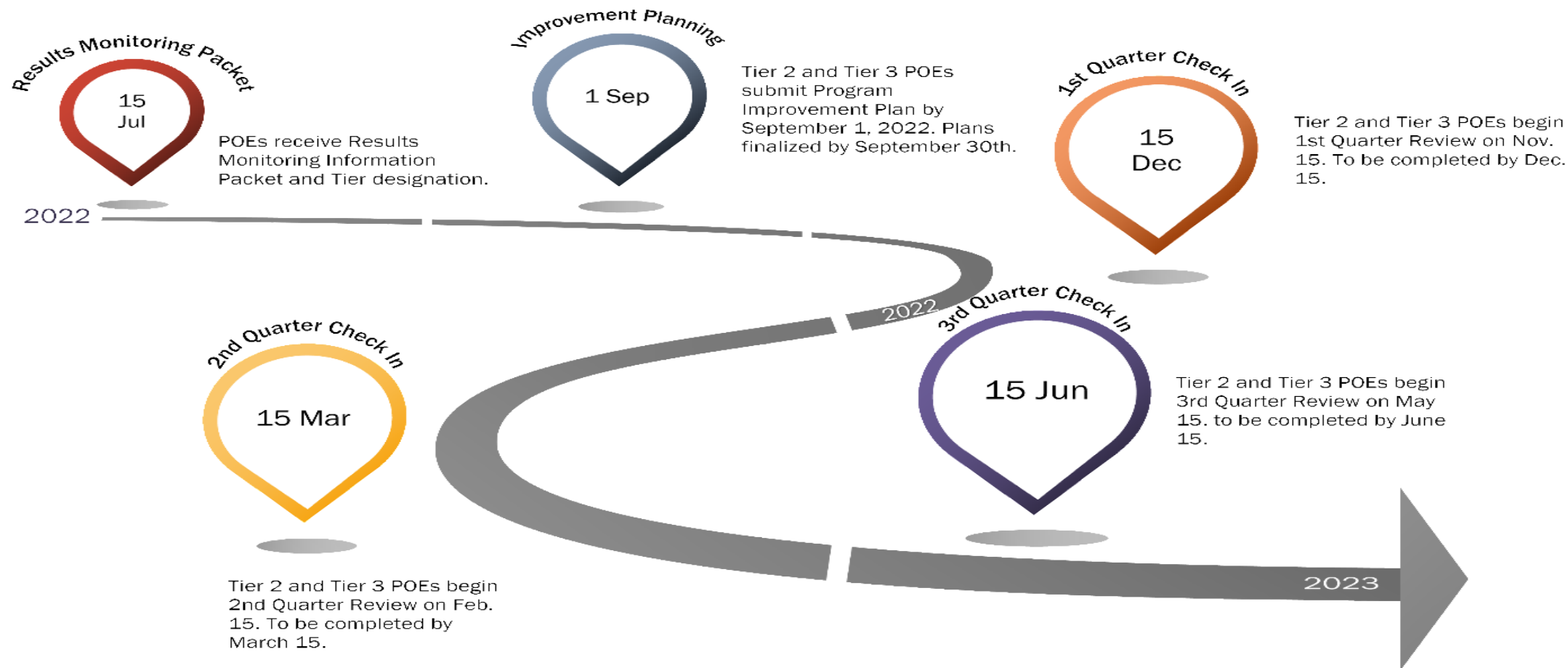
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QUESTIONS