



Tennessee's Early Intervention System Frequently Used Acronyms and Terms

Term/Acronym	Definition
619	Portion of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that specifically addresses preschoolers ages 3–5
Board certified behavior analyst (BCBA)	Board certified individual who is trained to provide and supervise behavior analysis services
Battelle Developmental Inventory 2 Normative Update (BDI-2 NU)	Comprehensive developmental assessment tool used to determine Tennessee Early Intervention System (TEIS) eligibility
Child Abuse Treatment and Prevention Act (CAPTA)	CAPTA is the Federal law that provides funding and guidance to States in support of prevention, assessment, investigation, prosecution, and treatment of child abuse and neglect. Under CAPTA, every child under age three with a substantiated case of abuse and neglect must be referred to the Part C for evaluation for potential delays or disabilities.
Certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA)	Under the supervision of a licensed occupational therapist, helps patients develop, recover, improve, as well as maintain the skills needed for daily living and working.
District administrator (DA)	TEIS staff who provide overall leadership of the district TEIS office
Developmental therapy (DT)	Form of therapy provided by an early interventionist that focuses on integration of conceptual skills, motor skills, language skills, and social-emotional skills.
Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO)	IDEA indicator that measures the percent of infants/toddlers demonstrating improved positive social-emotional skills; acquisition and use of knowledge and skills; and use of appropriate behaviors.
Early interventionist (EI)	The person who provides developmental therapy
Early Intervention Resource Agencies (EIRAs)	TEIS-funded programs providing developmental therapy service

Term/Acronym	Definition
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)	Federal law ensuring appropriate services to children with disabilities throughout the nation. IDEA governs how states and public agencies provide early intervention, special education, and related services to eligible infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities. Infants and toddlers with disabilities (ages birth through age two) and their families receive early intervention services under IDEA, Part C. Children and youth (ages 3–21) receive special education and related services under IDEA, Part B.
Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)	Written plan that documents and guides the early intervention process for children (ages birth through age two) with disabilities and their families.
Local Education Agency (LEA)	The school district where the child will attend.
Natural environment	Setting that is natural or typical for a same-aged infant or toddler without a disability, may include the home or community settings
Occupational therapy or Occupational therapist (OT)	Occupational therapy supports people across the lifespan in performing activities necessary for daily living, such as self-care, work, play, or social interaction. The person who provides occupational therapy is known as an occupational therapist.
Part B	Section of IDEA that specifically addresses students ages 3-21 years.
Part C	Section of IDEA that specifically addresses infants and toddlers birth through age two.
Program coordinator (PC)	Person who provides direct supervision to service coordinators in the district TEIS office.
Point of entry offices (POEs)	Nine regional TEIS district offices. A list of the offices can be found on the TEIS web page (here).
Physical therapy or Physical therapist (PT)	Physical therapy focuses on the diagnosis and treatment of mobility problems in people of all ages and abilities, helping them improve and maintain function and quality of life. The person who provides physical therapy is known as a physical therapist.
Physical therapy assistant (PTA)	Under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist, provide treatment to individuals who have medical problems or other health-related conditions that limit their abilities to move and perform functional activities in their daily lives.

Term/Acronym	Definition
Prior Written Notice (PWN)	Advance notice provided to a parent ahead of an activity or action.
Service coordinator (SC)	Person who manages a caseload of multiple children by assisting their families in coordination of the provision of the early intervention services and oversees development of the IFSP.
Speech-language pathologist (SLP)	Person who works to prevent, assess, diagnose, and treat speech, language, social communication, cognitive communication, and swallowing disorders.
Speech therapy (ST)	Treatment of a variety of disorders related to producing speech and other oral motor functions.
Targeted case management (TCM)	Face-to-face visit conducted by TEIS with child and caregiver to monitor delivery of services
Tennessee's Early Intervention Data System (TEIDS)	The data system used by TEIS to document all services and contacts.
Tennessee Early Intervention System (TEIS)	A voluntary educational program for families with children birth through age two with disabilities or developmental delays. TEIS coordinates the services outlined in IDEA, Part C for eligible infants/toddlers in Tennessee.
Transition planning conference (TPC)	A meeting held three to nine months before a child's third birthday to discuss potential options for supports and services upon aging out of TEIS.
Vendor	Contracted entity that provides IFSP services to children and families, other than developmental therapy.

TEIS Point of Entry Office (POE) Abbreviations:

Abbreviation	Full Name	Region of State
ET	East Tennessee	East
FT	First Tennessee	East
GN	Greater Nashville	Middle
MD	Memphis Delta	West
NW	Northwest	West
SC	South Central	Middle
SE	Southeast	East
SW	Southwest	West
UC	Upper Cumberland	Middle

Child Phases in Chronological Order:

Abbreviation	Full Name	Trigger
N	Notification	Referral received and entered into data system
S	Screening	(Discontinued) Child enters screening phase when screening information is entered into screening page of data system. TEIS no longer uses in-house screening.
R	Referral	Parental consent date is completed indicating parent agrees to participate in evaluation
E	Evaluation	Developmental evaluation results entered
G	Eligibility	Eligibility date and decision entered
I	IFSP	Initial IFSP date and information entered Once a child enters IFSP phase, they never revert back to an earlier phase, even if the file closes.

Child Status:

Abbreviation	Full Name	Definition
A	Active	Child's record is active (open) on the date the information was collected.
I	Inactive	Child's record was closed on the date the information was collected. Inactive records can be reactivated as long as the child is age-eligible for services.