

5/20/2020

Subject: Virtual Visit Guidance

Greetings from the Early Learning section. Our staff would like to share some information specifically related to providing Parents as Teachers (PAT) services. Virtual services through interactive video conferencing or telecommunication is the preferred method of delivering PAT services in Missouri. Our staff has been participating in the Monday calls hosted by the Missouri Parents as Teachers Association (MOPATA) and know that some districts are discussing how to transition to in-person service delivery. The Parents as Teachers National Center (PATNC) has posted a Technical Assistance Brief titled *Updated Guidance for Continuing to Support Families during the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis*. This brief identifies some considerations and resources that programs will need when making the decision to transition to in-person services. The TA brief is available in O.L.I.V.E.R. on the PATNC webpage.

DESE continues to encourage virtual services for all our PAT programs and will continue to do so until further notice. It is our goal to keep all Missouri families safe and healthy including our parent educators. Families are experiencing stress from isolation, financial burdens and lots of change. The work of home visiting is such a vital resource and a smart investment now more than ever. We appreciate your efforts and are here to assist you as needed. Contact your [Early Learning Supervisor](#) with any questions you may have. We hope that you stay safe and healthy as we navigate this new journey together.