

Subject: ECSE/First Steps/Updated Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO) Website

Source: Pam Thomas, Coordinator, First Steps Program and Pam Williams, Coordinator, Special Education Services

Intended Audience: Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) Directors, Teachers, System Point of Entry (SPOE) Directors, and Service Coordinators

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The State Performance Plan (SPP), required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), includes an indicator that requires data collection on early childhood outcomes (ECO). The ECO is designed to gather entry and exit performance data for children receiving services in Part C of IDEA (First Steps Program) and Part B (Early Childhood Special Education).

The Missouri ECO website has recently been updated with new materials, including a Decision Tree, an ECO Ratings Definition, and a new frequently asked questions (FAQ) document. A previously recorded presentation is also available for First Steps System Points of Entry (SPOE) and Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) personnel to review. The recording and materials are available online at: <http://dese.mo.gov/se/ecotraining.html>.

SPOE and ECSE administrators are encouraged to use these materials to ensure staff responsible for administration of the ECO are adequately trained and knowledgeable of all of the requirements and practices, which includes collaborating between First Steps and ECSE programs as well as collecting and reporting ECO data.

For First Steps - If you need further information regarding ECO, please contact your Area Director.

For ECSE - If you need further information regarding the administration of ECO, contact Ginger Henry at Ginger.Henry@dese.mo.gov or 573-751-0625. For information regarding data collection and reporting, contact Tanya Pleus at Tanya.Pleus@dese.mo.gov or 573-526-4995.