

Family-Directed Assessment



When children are eligible for Early ACCESS services, a Family-Directed Assessment must be completed during the initial assessment and as part of the Annual Review of the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).

The ACHIEVE Evaluation/Assessment Details page provides the selection of an Interview method to enter details provided by the family.

Select method(s) to begin entering Evaluation Details: Review Interview Observation Test

Family Interview: Resources, Priorities and Concerns

Family-Directed Assessment Conversation Starters Introduction



When beginning to have a conversation with families about their strengths, resources, concerns and priorities the Service Coordinator may click on the **View Script** button in ACHIEVE to describe the interview process. The following information will appear to assist in explaining the purpose of the family interview.

View Script

Early ACCESS provides support and resources in partnership with family members and caregivers to empower the family to help their child develop and learn through everyday activities and routines.

It is important for us to gather information so that we can get to know your family. In order to identify how we can best support your child and family, I am going to ask questions to learn more about your family's strengths, resources and priorities. I also want to hear about your concerns about caring for and supporting your child's development.

If your child is determined eligible, the Early ACCESS team, including you, will develop child and family outcomes or goals based on your priorities and concerns. Outcomes or goals guide our plan for what we will be working on together so that your child can participate in everyday family and community activities.

The script changes when children are determined eligible for Early ACCESS based on Documented Delay or Diagnosis.

View Script

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It is important for us to gather information so we can get to know your family. In order to identify how we can best support your child and family, I am going to ask questions to learn more about your family's strengths, resources, and priorities. I also want to hear about your concerns about caring for and supporting your child's development.

The Early ACCESS team, including you, will develop child and family outcomes or goals based on your priorities and concerns. Outcomes or goals guide our plan for what we will be working on together so that your child can participate in everyday family and community activities.

Child and Family Strengths*

Prompts when discussing areas of strength with families:

- Can you tell me who are some of (child's name) favorite people?
- How about (child's name) favorite objects/toys or activities? How do they let you know they like it?
- What about their least favorite? How do they let you know they do not like it?
- How does your child let you know they need something?
- How do you feel your child adjusts to new people or places?
- What are some things you feel your child does well?
- What are some things your child can do on their own?
- What activities are enjoyable for your family?
- What is your favorite activity to do with your child?

Family Resources*

Prompts when discussing resources with families:

- During the week, does your family have places you go to regularly?
- Are there places your child goes with others?
- Do you have family members, friends or neighbors close by that can help you?
- Who do you call when you need help?
- Who are the important people in your life?
- Do you have anybody else coming into your home?
- Is your family involved with any programs, services or activities?
- How do you get to doctor's appointments, the grocery store?

Child and Family Concerns*

Prompts when discussing areas of concern with families:

- What concerns do you have about your child's development, behavior or health?
- Has anyone else expressed concerns to you about your child's development, behavior or health?
- What are things you often have to help your child do?
- When does your child get frustrated?
- How do you know your child is frustrated?
- How do you calm your child down?
- Is there anything you are worried about? Are you worried about their eating, sleeping, playing, dressing, bathing, diapering, or taking your child out and about?
- Is there anything you would like to change if you could?
- Is there any information, support, or resources you feel you need at this time for your family?
- Do you feel confident in your parenting skills?
- Any questions or anything you would like help with?

Family Priorities*

Prompts when discussing families' priorities:

- What would make life easier for your family?
- If you could change one thing about your day, what would it be?
- What do you want your child to be doing in the next 6 months? What would you want your child to learn, be better at or be able to do?
- What do you need help with right now so that you can help your child?
- What is important for your family? What makes it important?

Other information the family wants the team to know about their child and family* Prompts when talking with families:

- Is there anything else the team needs to know about your child or family?
- If asked how your family is doing right now, you would say.....

Family Interview: Routines

Introduction



The team may click on the **View Script** button in ACHIEVE to assist in explaining the purpose of learning about a family's routines. Conversations with families about their routines occur in a conversational manner, rather than a one-sided checklist type of approach.

View Script

The focus of Early ACCESS is to support you in helping your child learn from and participate in activities that are meaningful to your family. Therefore, it is important for us to understand the things you do most days (such as getting dressed and mealtime) and how you, your child and other family members currently participate. By sharing this information, we can identify opportunities to practice the skills you want your child to learn.

Family Routines

Can you tell me what are some things you do most days beginning with the morning? Prompts when discussing a family's routines:

- What do you do most mornings? or How do you start your day?
- After hearing about morning routines, ask "what happens next" in order to transition to the next routine. Be careful to cover routines for the entire day (morning, afternoon, evening).

Routines and Activities

The team enters additional information for each Routine identified in the interview by clicking on the **Add New Routine** button. ACHIEVE includes a rating scale as a guide to measure the family's perspective of each routine. The following routines are provided in a dropdown menu:

Play Routines

- Play with Objects
- Pretend Play
- Active/Physical Play
- Social Games
- Outdoor learning/play
- Free choice, interest areas

Caregiver Routines

- Self-Care, dressing, handwashing
- Transitions
- Meals / Snacks
- Nap, rest time

Learning Activities

- Books/Stories/Songs
- Creative Expression

Community and Family Routines

Family Chores/Errands

Other user can enter a new routine not in dropdown (Examples)

- Bathing
- Diaper/Toileting

Family Rating of Routine(s)

For each routine added, the team will identify activities to support learning throughout the day. Begin by asking family satisfaction with the routine and additional follow up questions are asked based on satisfaction given.

How satisfied are you with this routine?

- 1 Very worried/sad
- 2 Thinking about often
- 3 Satisfied
- 4 Happy
- 5 Very Happy

Family Rating of 1 or 2

If the family describes a routine as a rating of 1 or 2, ACHIEVE will provide prompts to gather additional information.

- Tell us what the routine looks like. Does it look the same if it is a different family member?
- Describe how the child assists/participates in this routine. Describe how they are engaged in the routine. What are the other family members doing in this routine?
- Is there a part of the routine that is going well for you and your child?
- Is there a part of the routine that is difficult for you and your child?
- How would it help your family or child if this routine were improved?
- Is this something you want to work on together? Yes or No.

Family Rating of 3, 4 or 5

If the family describes a routine as a rating of 3, 4 or 5, ACHIEVE will provide prompts to gather additional information.

- What is working well for you and your child during this routine?
- Is there a part of the routine that is difficult for you and your child?
- Describe how the child assists/participates in this routine. Describe how they are engaged in the routine. What are the other family members doing this routine?
- Is this something you want to work on together? Yes or No.

The team uses the information gathered from the family interviews on resources, priorities, concerns and routines to develop outcomes and identify strategies and opportunities for child to practice interventions in the routines.