



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Health

SENIOR AND DISABILITIES SERVICES  
Director's Office

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To: Alaska Early Intervention/Infant Learning Programs and ILP Families

From: Pam Kellish, Alaska Part C Coordinator

Re: EI/ILP Services & Public Health Emergency unwinding

Date: April 13, 2023

We would like to inform you that Alaska Infant Learning Programs service providers will return to making available in-person services for families that prefer them, starting no later than May 12, 2023.

This is because of changes at the federal level. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the national Public Health Emergency (PHE) for COVID-19 is set to expire at the end of the day, May 11, 2023. (The relevant law that established the PHE is Section 319 of the Public Health Service Act.)

All participating families have a right to receive in-person services from Infant Learning Programs. However, the decision to have providers in the home is up to families. If a family prefers to have services delivered from a distance (also called remotely or virtually), that is also still an option.

This decision of how to deliver services should be made based on each family's preference.

Those who request in-person services should plan for a safe home visit. Programs may request that families reschedule visits when there is COVID-19 or other illness in the home. When this happens, a program may offer virtual services to substitute for an in-home visit, if the family agrees. However, if a family still prefers in-person services, all attempts should be made to reschedule when the illness has ended.

As the Lead Agency, Alaska's Division of Senior and Disabilities Services supports continuing this hybrid model to allow all families to have access to services delivered as they prefer. When virtual/distance services are offered, Alaska Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program providers must inform families about their right to in-person services and any safety policies or protocols for such services, as well as the fact that the service delivery method is the family's choice. Distance delivery for services in the Part C system must allow for continuity of services and provide the option to switch to in-person services at any time.

If you have any questions about current services related to your child and would like to speak to someone at the State EI/ILP office, please contact Shannon Parker at [shannon.parker@alaska.gov](mailto:shannon.parker@alaska.gov).