Vermont Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE): Early Childhood Outcomes Summary (ECOS) Process Online Professional Learning Module Overview

This guidance document is adapted from the Child Outcome Summary (COS) Process Professional Learning document created by the **Center for IDEA Early Childhood Data Systems (DaSy)** and the **Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA)** as part of technical assistance on behalf of The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).

Audience - Are These Modules for You?

The ECOS Process module is designed to support professionals including Special Education Directors, Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) educators, classroom educators, related service personnel, Early Intervention personnel, administrators, and Universal PreK (UPK) Coordinators in their understanding and implementation of the ECOS process. Both new and veteran ECSE professionals who are responsible for collecting, reviewing, understanding and/or reporting early childhood outcomes for children receiving ECSE services within Vermont will benefit in improvement of application of the ECOS process. This training helps to ensure that all ECSE team members are receiving the same information in the same way.

ECOS Process Online Module

This free online, training module is designed to help early intervention and early childhood special education staff understand the ECOS process. Each **session** provides an overview and short key information about the ECOS process and the practices that contribute to consistent and meaningful decision-making.

Activities in each session are organized around a cycle of instruction that follows a consistent format and sequence, including an applied practice element to enhance learning.

It is recommended that you work through **all** sections of the cycle to maximize your understanding of the content.

Difference in Terms

ECTA and DaSy	Vermont Agency of Education
Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Process	Early Childhood Outcomes Summary (ECOS) Process
Child Outcomes	Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO): functional outcomes which describe a child's mastery and appropriate application of behaviors, knowledge, and skills in an intentional and meaningful way, across daily routines, activities, and settings.

Session 1: *Introduction- So What's This All About*? introduces the ECOS process and how your team can describe a child's functioning in the three early childhood outcome areas.

Session 2: *Overview of the ECOS Process* gives an overview of the process used to collect those data. You will learn about key features of the ECOS process and when teams are expected to complete the process. This information provides the background you need to further explore the requirements and resources specific to your state's policies about collecting early childhood outcomes data.

Session 3: *Completing the ECOS Process* requires input from a team of individuals who are familiar with a child's functioning across a variety of settings and situations, including families. You will learn about the knowledge and skills team members must have to carry out a quality ECOS process.

Session 4: *The 7-Point Scale* indicates a child's status on each of the three early childhood outcomes at a given point in time. You will learn about each point on the scale and how they are used to describe a child's current functioning compared to age-expected functioning for their chronological age.

Session 5: *More Information and Determining a Rating* introduces a tool to help you apply those criteria to the child outcomes decision-making process, including special considerations for children with specific characteristics (e.g., infants born prematurely*).

Session 6: *Good Teaming, Good Decisions* focusses on teaming, a critical feature of early intervention and ECSE, including early childhood outcomes decision-making and what effective teaming practices look like in the context of the ECOS process.

Session 7: *Documenting the ECO Rating* spotlights the evidence needed to document quality ECOS rating decisions and why documentation is important to the ECOS process.

Session 8: *The Exit ECO Rating* provides general information about the ECOS process, including how to assign a rating and outlines what the team should do for the ECOS rating at program exit.

ECOS Online Registration and Resources

Register [online](#) to access the module. Please bookmark this link or retain the confirmation email containing the link so you may access the site again easily.

Additional ECOS online resources can be found [online](#).

Additional questions and clarifications may be directed to [Katie McCarthy](#), ECSE/IDEA 619 Coordinator.

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