

ID# _____
 (please use the last four digits of your SSN)

State : _____

Participant Needs Assessment

The **Natural Allies** project is committed to sharing methods, models and materials with which to prepare personnel to work effectively with all infants, toddlers and young children, including those with disabilities. To assist us in making our institute as valuable an experience as possible for you, please take the time to provide us with the following information.

I. Early Childhood and Early Intervention Content Areas

Please read the following statements. Indicate your current level of knowledge and skill and your priority for updating your knowledge and skills by circling one number in each column to the right of the statement.

Content Areas	Current Level of Your Knowledge & Skill					Priority for Updating Your Knowledge and Skill				
	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High	
1. Family-centered practices	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
2. Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSP)/Individual Education Plans (IEP) (developing plans with families)	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
3. Laws and regulations pertaining to young children with disabilities	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
4. Inclusion, Least Restrictive Environments (LRE) & natural environments	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
5. Service coordination	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
6. Cultural and linguistic diversity	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
7. Teaming and collaboration	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
8. Interagency collaboration	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
9. Assessment/Evaluation (gathering information with families)	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
10. Transitions	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
11. Child development/Early brain development	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
12. Literacy	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
13. Other	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

From the numbered items listed above (1-12), choose the three areas that you would most like to receive information about. Enter their numbers in the spaces provided below.

_____ Highest Priority _____ Second-Highest Priority _____ Third-Highest Priority

II. Early Childhood and Early Intervention Systems Issues

Please read the following statements. Indicate your current level of knowledge and skill and your priority for updating your knowledge and skills by circling one number in each column to the right of the statement.

Systems Issues	Current Level of Your Knowledge & Skill					Priority for Updating Your Knowledge and Skill				
	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High				
1. The early childhood/early intervention systems in your state	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
2. Personnel preparation plans and structures in your state (e.g., career lattice)	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
2. Licensure, certification or credentialing requirements in your state	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
4. Program evaluation and monitoring strategies	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
5. Articulation between associate & baccalaureate programs in your state	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
6. Other (please specify)	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

From the numbered items above (1- 6), choose the three areas you would most like to receive information about. Enter their numbers in the spaces below.

_____ Highest Priority _____ Second-Highest Priority _____ Third-Highest Priority

III. Instructional Approaches for Early Childhood and Early Intervention

Please read the following statements. Indicate your current level of knowledge and skill and your priority for updating your knowledge and skills by circling one number in each column to the right of the statement.

Instructional Approaches	Current Level of Your Knowledge & Skill					Priority for Updating Your Knowledge and Skill				
	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High				
1. Principles of adult learning	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
2. Self-assessment procedures	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
3. Family members as presenters and co-instructors	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
4. Cross-discipline co-teaching	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
5. Case method of instruction	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
6. Team training (training of entire team)	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
7. Interactive techniques (role playing, for example)	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
8. Distance education/web and internet-based approaches	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
9. Consultative approaches	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
10. Practica/field experiences in diverse community settings	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

From the numbered items above (1- 6), choose the three areas you would most like to receive information about. Enter their numbers in the spaces below.

_____ Highest Priority _____ Second-Highest Priority _____ Third-Highest Priority

IV. Assistance and Resources

Indicate the extent to which the following kinds of assistance and resources would be helpful to you by circling one number in the column to the right.

A. Assistance	Not At All Helpful		Helpful		Extremely Helpful
1. Up-to-date information on instructional models and strategies	1	2	3	4	5
2. Presentations and discussions on teaching and training with experts	1	2	3	4	5
3. Observing exemplary teaching and training practices	1	2	3	4	5
4. Practicing teaching and training skills and receiving feedback	1	2	3	4	5
B. Instructional Resources					
	Not At All Helpful		Helpful		Extremely Helpful
1. Lecture outlines	1	2	3	4	5
2. Overhead transparencies	1	2	3	4	5
3. Videotapes	1	2	3	4	5
4. Discussion questions	1	2	3	4	5
5. Case studies	1	2	3	4	5
6. Interactive and experiential instructional activities	1	2	3	4	5
7. Evaluation measures	1	2	3	4	5
8. A packages curriculum that includes all of the above	1	2	3	4	5
C. Personal Resources					
	Not At All Helpful		Helpful		Extremely Helpful
1. Further training for myself in relevant content areas	1	2	3	4	5
2. Further training for myself in a variety of instructional processes and models	1	2	3	4	5
3. Access to other early childhood faculty members and programs	1	2	3	4	5
4. Access to instructional resources (e.g., curricula, videotapes, syllabi)	1	2	3	4	5
5. Other faculty members with whom to co-instruct	1	2	3	4	5
6. Family members with whom to co-instruct	1	2	3	4	5
7. Reimbursement for my time	1	2	3	4	5
8. Reimbursement for my travel	1	2	3	4	5
9. Technical assistance on instructional techniques	1	2	3	4	5
10. A commitment from my institution to support my ongoing learning (e.g., freeing up some of my time, training counting toward tenure/promotion)	1	2	3	4	5
11. A show of interest from early childhood/early intervention agencies and systems	1	2	3	4	5
12. Other (please specify)	1	2	3	4	5

V. Your Perspectives

1. What do you hope to achieve by participating in the **Natural Allies** institute?
2. If you had to select only one topic to be covered at the **Natural Allies** institute, what would it be?
3. Your expertise will be an important resource to the institute and to your team. Are there aspects of early childhood or early intervention personnel preparation in which you could be a resource to others (e.g., content areas, instructional approaches, instructional resources)?
4. Do you have other concerns or comments that you would like to share with us as we prepare for the **Natural Allies** institute?

Thank you for your help!