

**New Hampshire
Family Outcomes Survey
For Early Supports and Services
April 2009**

Deadline for returning survey: May 31, 2009

What is this survey about?

The Family Outcomes Survey asks about your opinions and experiences as a parent of a young child who is involved with Early Supports and Services (ESS).

Why am I being asked to answer these questions?

We are interested in learning about parents' opinions and experiences so that we can make sure that Early Supports and Services programs are addressing the needs that families have. We plan to use the results of this survey to help improve the quality of Early Supports and Services.

Who should answer these questions?

Who answers these questions is up to you. We just want the best information possible about your family. For some families, one person might complete this survey. In other families, couples may want to complete it together if they mostly agree on the answers. Another option is for each parent to complete his or her own copy, especially if they have very different opinions or experiences. If you have chosen this option and decided to complete two separate surveys please indicate that on the surveys.

How long will this take?

There are 10 questions. How long it takes to answer will depend on how many times you read the statements and whether you discuss it with your spouse or other significant family members. Most people find that they can complete the survey in about 5 to 10 minutes.

Who will see my answers?

Your answers will be combined with those of other families participating in Early Supports and Services programs to come up with an overall picture of families in our state. Your child's service providers will not see the specific answers you give nor will your child or family circumstances be identifiable in any way. They will only get summaries of answers that all parents give.

Will this be of direct benefit to me?

Completing this survey may help you think about your family's experiences and identify areas that you have questions or would like more information about to discuss with service providers.

Today's date: _____

Region 2 – Pathways _____

Your Town: _____

Name of Program FCESS _____

Who filled out this survey?

mother only

father only

both parents together

guardian

other: who? _____

How long has your child been receiving early supports and services?

about 3 years

about 2 ½ years

about 2 years

about 1 ½ years

about 1 year

about 6 months

Your child's age: _____

Your child's Race/Ethnicity: _____

INSTRUCTIONS Each question has responses ranging from 1-7. Brief statements describe ratings of 1, 3, 5, and 7. Read the statements and circle the number that best describes your family right now. In some cases you may find that a statement almost describes your family, but not quite. If so, circle the number just below the statement. For example, if you think that the statement under the 3 almost describes your family, but not quite, circle the 2.

You will notice that the responses include the word "we." This refers to your family. It's okay if you are answering just for yourself (your own opinion or experience) or as a couple with a shared opinion or experiences. Finally, at the bottom of each section you'll find space for comments if you'd like to explain any answers.

NOTE: This scale was developed by Don Bailey, Kathy Hebbeler, and Mary Beth Bruder as part of the Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO) Center, a cooperative agreement (#H324L030002) to SRI International from the Office of Special Education Programs, U.S. Department of Education. This version has been modified specifically for the **State of New Hampshire**. The content does not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. The ECO Center is a collaborative effort of SRI International, the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the Juniper Garden's Children's Project at the University of Kansas, the National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE), and the University of Connecticut.

A. Knowing your rights and advocating for your child

A.1. *To what extent has Early Supports and Services (ESS) helped you learn about the programs and services available to you and your child through the Family Centered Early Supports and Services program? (Family Support, Respite etc.)*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
We are just beginning to learn about the programs and services that are available		We know about some of the available programs and services.		We think we are aware of most available programs and services		We are very aware of the programs and services that are available

A.2. *To what extent has ESS helped you feel comfortable in participating as equal partners in ESS meetings (home visits, evaluations, Individual Family Support Plan meetings) about your child? (Telling providers/home visitors what you think, asking questions, making decisions)*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not comfortable		Somewhat comfortable		Comfortable		Very comfortable

A.3. *To what extent has ESS helped you know who to contact if you have a disagreement with the supports and services being provided?*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not at all		Somewhat		In many ways		A great deal

A.4. *Families who have children in ESS have certain rights such as the right to review and inspect ESS records that pertain to your child, as well as other rights that are listed in the Know Your Rights handbook. To what extent has ESS helped your family know and understand your rights?*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not at all		Somewhat		In many ways		A great deal

Comments:

B. Effectively Communicate your children's needs

B.1. *How helpful has Early Supports and Services been in supporting your family to effectively communicate your child's needs? (To other caregivers, physicians, family members etc.)*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not helpful		Somewhat helpful		Helpful		Extremely helpful

Comments:

C. Helping your child develop and learn

C.1. To what extent has Early Supports and Services (ESS) helped you find ways to include strategies into your daily activities that help your child develop and learn?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Never		Sometimes		Often		Always

C.2. To what extent has ESS helped your family understand your child's strengths, abilities, and needs?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not at all		Somewhat		In many ways		A lot

C.3. To what extent do you feel ESS has helped your child to make progress?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not at all		Somewhat		In many ways		A lot

Comments:

D. Having support systems

D.4. To what extent has Early Supports and Services (ESS) helped your family build or strengthen your support system?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not at all		Somewhat		In many ways		A great deal

Comments:

E. Accessing your community

E.5. To what extent has ESS helped your family access resources and services that are available to all families in your community? (Childcare, dental care, healthcare, playgroups etc.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not at all		Somewhat		In many ways		A great deal

Comments:

Please provide any additional comments that you would like to share about the services you have received through NH Early Supports and Services:

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★ If you would like to be contacted to participate in the statewide summary of the family surveys (data review committee), please call Carolyn Stiles at 1.800.852.3345, ext. 5122.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

***Please return completed surveys to: Family Centered Early Supports and Services,
Bureau of Developmental Services, 105 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301***