

An Early Intervention Guide To Tele-Intervention

Getting Started

Step 1 - Select a videoconferencing platform. Consider privacy, security, and ease of use. Obtain approval of your chosen platform from your program.

Step 2 - Familiarize yourself with this platform. Check out all of the features and options, and do a test run with a colleague to ensure that you are ready to support families with learning to use this platform as well.

Step 3 - Contact the families you support to inform them of the change in service delivery. Discuss necessary equipment (cell phone, tablet, computer with camera) and internet access. Find out from the family if videoconferencing is an option. While many will be able to adapt to this change, some families may be limited by data plans or internet availability. Consider other options, such as phone calls.

Step 4 - Plan for the first visit with the family by identifying a typical activity to serve as the focus of the visit. Problem-solve how you will be able to see the parent-child in action from their device during the visit and determine what they want the child to learn during the planned activity.

Step 5 - Continue the use of evidence-based practices when supporting families using this platform. This includes using a coaching interaction style and natural learning environment practices.

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Other Considerations: Be mindful of how you are protecting family confidentiality by conducting calls from a private location. If working from home, be sure to choose a space that is separate from anyone else that may be present in your home, and without anything visually distracting behind you. Consider using a headset that includes a microphone. This will not only provide better sound quality, but it also acts as an extra layer of protection of confidentiality.