

The Institute for the Advancement of Family Support Professionals

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Institute for the Advancement of Family Support Professionals (Institute)?

The Institute offers Family Support Professionals everywhere the opportunity to learn new skills and grow their careers. Through engaging, online modules and a personalized learning map feature, My Career Compass, professionals take charge of their professional growth and advancement.

The Institute is being developed through a Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Innovation Award by building upon previous work of project partners to enhance professional development across the field.

- An online learning system that promotes personalized learning.
- A centralized place for home visitor training.
- Comprehensive training that is available any time, any place.
- High quality, professional training that is created by experts in the home visiting field.

Who can use the Institute?

The Institute is a platform where all family support professionals can create a learning profile and have access to professional development features such as online learning modules, and assessments, digital badges, college course credit, CEUs, and certifications.

Any individual can access the Institute's training content and can engage with the trainings of their choice. To access the features and modules on the Institute, users must create a learning profile (free to do so!) and are then granted access to features on the Institute, such as the My Career Compass, and can share their progress with anyone else who is a registered learner.

Why the Institute?

- Free!
- Convenient- take the courses as your schedule allows
- One stop location for all resources
- Model-agnostic approach
- Progress can be shared with supervisor
- Can showcase your credential by earning a digital badge.

What is the National Family Support Competency Framework?

The framework contains the core competencies for direct service Family Support Professionals. The Competency Framework is organized around ten domains. Each domain begins with a brief introduction of the domain. Domains are further defined by dimensions and detailed with components that further describe dimensions. Lastly, each competency is broken down into three distinct competency levels; recognizing, applying and extending.

What is the Transfer of Learning?

Transfer of learning is the ability to apply the knowledge you learn to a real-world context. All of the modules and resources on the Institute were created and designed with this framework in mind. In order to facilitate the transfer of learning, all e-learning modules have both learning guides and resource guide available for download outside of the module and within the module itself.

Learning Guide:

The learning guide provides an opportunity for all professionals to reflect on their knowledge of the learning objectives covered in the training and develop their personal learning goals and action plan for the training. As users take the virtual home visiting module series their answers to questions throughout the module will populate a completed learning guide they can print and share with their supervisor after the training.

Resource Guide:

The resource guide provides a cliff notes version of the content covered in the e-learning module. It is meant to serve as a quick reference guide for tips and strategies covered in the module. It also has links and information for additional resources to do a deeper dive into specific content areas a family support professional may want to learn more about.