

To: Principals & Kindergarten Teachers

From: District EDI Coordinator

Date: XX

Subject: Implementation this School Year of the Early Development Instrument (EDI)

Dear Principals and Kindergarten Teachers,

The **Early Development Instrument (EDI)** is a valid and reliable measure of children's well-being at the **community level**. It assesses five key areas of early childhood development:

- Physical health and well-being
- Social competence
- Emotional maturity
- Language and cognitive skills
- Communication skills and general knowledge

The EDI is a **population-level surveillance tool** used to inform policies, guide resource allocation, and support community-level strategies that improve conditions for young children. While the EDI is **not designed to inform instruction for individual students**, district leaders across the United States have found it highly valuable for understanding the strengths and needs of incoming kindergarten cohorts and for building partnerships within the community to better support school readiness. (Please see the attached EDI Fact Sheet for additional information.)

We are excited to bring this important data to our schools and communities to gain insights and support collective action on behalf of young children and families. The EDI also fulfills the **Kindergarten Entry Assessment requirement under NMAC 6.30.5.12**.

Data Collection Timeline

- **February 3 – May 29, 2026**
- Data will be collected through an **online EDI portal administered and managed by UCLA**.

Rosters and Teacher Accounts

- The **Public Education Department (PED)** will provide student rosters to UCLA.
- UCLA will upload the rosters into the EDI platform, create a **unique account for each kindergarten teacher**, and populate each account with the teacher's class list and student demographic information.
- The online class list will include **State Student IDs only (no student names)**.
- **District EDI Coordinators** will provide kindergarten teachers with a **hard copy class list** that includes both the student name and corresponding State Student ID.

Teacher Training and Completion

- Kindergarten teachers will view a **20-minute EDI training video** prior to completing the instrument.
- Teachers will complete **one EDI per student**, based on professional observation and recall.
- The EDI takes approximately **10–15 minutes per student** to complete.
- **EDI results are not reported for individual students, teachers, or classrooms.**

Who Should Complete the EDI

- The EDI should be completed by the **lead kindergarten classroom teacher** who has the most knowledge of the student.
- In some cases, this may be a **long-term substitute teacher or an educational assistant**. If this applies, please consult with your **District EDI Coordinator** for guidance.

Please refer to the **next page for key steps and important dates**.

Key Steps and Dates for EDI

Activity	Date /Information
Send letters to the parents of the kinder students.	two weeks prior to the designated EDI administration
Login materials will be sent by the EDI Coordinators to teachers. These items include: • Hard-copy Class List • Teacher EDI Portal Instruction Sheet • List of EDI items by domain and sub-domain • Teacher Training Guide (teachers can access once they log in to portal) • Teacher training video (teachers can access once they log in to portal)	2/3/26
Survey Administration opens	XXXXXX
Date the EDI administration closes	May 29, 2026
District EDI contact for questions	XXXXXX
PED Contact	Neil Tulabing, leoneil.tulabing@ped.nm.gov
UCLA Contact	DataInformedFutures@mednet.ucla.edu