

7 Steps to Telepractice Early Intervention

By Lauren Tandy, M.S., CCC-SLP

1. Pick a HIPAA and/or FERPA compliant platform (many available and lists of options to be provided. I use Theraplatform.com and have for three years - *referral for me to get a free month if you sign up is <https://www.theraplatform.com/freetrial/JBLEa>*)
2. Offering Telepractice to families and have a consent for Telepractice services signed (some platforms, including Theraplatform, offer the consent form to be sent electronically)
3. Use the COACHING MODEL when providing intervention for family-centered services in their natural environment. I will delve deeply into this in a later post/video. Coaching is research-based for early intervention and it is our friend for telepractice! Keep in mind that coaching incorporates clinician modeling or picture/video modeling, as well. It is not just verbal coaching.
4. Create your telepractice caseload list and do your research to find appropriate visual/research/video supports. Resources for this will be provided in a list format.
5. Watch or read the tutorials either offered online or through your chosen platform to prepare you for:
 - Minimum internet capabilities
 - Minimum technology needs (to be provided) for therapist and family
 - How to troubleshoot issues
 - How to provide coaching intervention to families (specific to early intervention services, Infant Toddler Programs, or Birth to 3 Programs)
6. Create your schedule with appropriate email addresses in your platform.
7. Log-on for therapy!

Note: Therapy will not be as pretty as it can be to start. You will make mistakes. Technology will fail. You will discover where your weak spots are and you will fix them. Life will go on. You will come back to our group for answers. And you will be okay. The better you get, the better your sessions will be.

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