



## Pilot Study of the DRDP access for Infants and Toddlers

# RESEARCH OVERVIEW

Thank you for your interest in our pilot study of the DRDP *access*. This pilot study examines the use of the DRDP *access* for infants and toddlers and is a two-year involving two groups of children: those served through Early Start/Part C programs and those in general early childhood programs. Programs volunteering to participate in the study are involved for either a one or two year phase of the pilot. In the past, the Desired Results *access* Project has significantly benefited from the support and assistance of programs across the state for our research activities.

### Study Purpose

The primary purposes of this study are to:

- Better understand the extent to which the DRDP *access* can provide valid and reliable data for infants and toddlers
- Assure that the DRDP *access* is adequate to measure progress made by infants and toddlers
- Assure that the DRDP *access* is a meaningful and acceptable instrument for children served by Early Start/Part C services
- Assess children without disabilities using the DRDP *access* – which is important for planning for children who have disabilities.

### Design of the Study

The study began in the fall of 2010 and ends in spring of 2012. Those participating in the study are completing assessments on the same children over the course of the study. Assessment periods take place twice each year. For the two year study, assessors are completing assessments, beginning with one or two infants who are birth to 12 months of age in year one, and adding one or two toddlers who are 18 to 36 months of age in year two. For the one year study, assessors will complete two assessments per child for the same infants and toddlers, once in the fall and once in the spring.

The DRDP *access* is an authentic observational assessment tool. The DRDP *access* has been designed to assess the development of children *birth-to-five years of age* and is currently used by the California Department of Education, Special Education Division, to assess children receiving special education services between 3 and 5 years of age. The purpose of the DRDP *access* is to assess child development across a range of areas and contains many similar Measures as the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP® 2010).

The DRDP *access* assessment takes place during the assessor's typical visits with the child and family and in the service setting in which the child receives services. The assessment involves observing the child and family engaging in typical activities and routines. The assessment may also involve talking with the family, caregivers, or other service providers about the child's skills and abilities to prepare for this study, assessors participate in a training session and have access to online materials. Assessors then use the DRDP *access* over the course of four to six for a selected group of children. Assessors assess these children again after six months. Assessors participating in the two-year study-repeat assessments every six months for a total of four assessment periods.

## Study Timeline

PILOT STUDY TIMELINE	
<b>YEAR 1</b>	
Aug, 2010	2 Year Study Assessors receive introductory materials
Sept, 2010	Attend training
Oct-Nov, 2010	Assess infants with the DRDP <i>access</i>
Nov, 2010	Submit data
March, 2011	Participate in a web conference
April-May, 2011	Reassess infants with the DRDP <i>access</i>
<b>YEAR 2</b>	
Sept, 2011	Assessors 1 Year Study receive introductory materials
	Attend Training
2 Year Assessors	Participate in a web conference
Oct-Nov, 2011	Conduct DRDP <i>access</i> assessments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reassess children assessed in YEAR 1</li> <li>• Assess children selected for YEAR 2</li> </ul>
March, 2012	Participate in a web conference
April-May, 2012	Complete final DRDP <i>access</i> assessments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reassess children assessed in YEAR 1</li> <li>• Reassess children assessed in YAR 2</li> </ul>

## Assessor Responsibilities

The Desired Results *access* Project provides assessors with information about the study to familiarize participants with the relevant research materials. The primary responsibilities for each assessor include:

- (a) Providing consent to participate in the study;
- (b) Obtaining consent from family members of children who will be assessed during the study  
(note: a consent form prepared by the Desired Results *access* Project will be provided);
- (c) Completing assessments as scheduled for each child selected for the study;
- (d) Submitting completed assessment materials to the Desired Results *access* Project.

Each assessor is provided with a Checklist of Assessor Responsibilities to assist in organizing the research activities and completing the necessary tasks for the study. Additionally, a member of the Desired Results *access* Project research team will be available to assist assessors throughout the course of the study when questions arise.

## Additional Information

All materials will be provided for assessors by the Desired Results *access* Project. Training on the DRDP *access* will be held prior to assessors collecting data. All assessment data will be mailed to the Desired Results *access* Project using provided postage-paid envelopes. Additionally, online training modules and materials are made available to all those who participate in the pilot.

For more information, contact:

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