
Early Intervention

Transition Facts for Families

Your child is approaching age three and it is time to start thinking of expanding his/her current learning experiences and if needed planning new learning experiences!

Let's begin to explore opportunities that he/she may be able to take advantage of so that he/she can interact and learn with other children which is very important during the preschool years. Some programs have registration deadlines so it is important to plan ahead!

Story hour at your local library
Head Start (home based or classroom)
Community-based activities
Pre K Programs
Nursery School Programs

Private Preschool
Childcare
Play Groups
Play Dates in your home

A Transition Meeting will be scheduled before your child exits the Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program. The Preschool Early Intervention Program will work with you and your current Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program to determine the needs of your child and family as you prepare for transition. A Transition Plan will be developed for your child at that time to help you and your child prepare for preschool age experiences and if needed, to begin the process of exploring supports and services from the Early Intervention Preschool Program.

A Multidisciplinary Evaluation (MDE) will occur before your child turns three to determine eligibility for the Preschool Early Intervention Program. At this time your child's strengths, needs and your priorities will be discussed. Formal evaluations will be conducted, if needed, and information gathered from the Early Intervention Birth to 3 Program will be reviewed. We will also discuss any additional information that you wish to share about your child. The MDE team will determine eligibility for your child. If your child is determined to have a developmental delay or has a disability that would qualify him/her and if he/she is in need of special education and related services, he/she would be deemed eligible to receive services and supports from the Early Intervention Preschool Program. If your child is not eligible, your child's current Infant Toddler team will support your child's transition by identifying age appropriate community supports and activities.

If your child is eligible for Preschool EI Services, the Preschool Program will work with you to write a plan for your child. The plan will no longer be called an IFSP. For Preschool it is called an Individualized Education Program (IEP). However, the document will look the same as the IFSP. The IEP team (of which you are an important part) will develop goals to support your child's learning and determine which services can best support the goals in the least restrictive environment (LRE). LRE means that preschool children with developmental delays/disabilities should be educated in the same environments where children without disabilities are educated, to the maximum extent possible. This could be at an early childhood program, child care, home environment etc.

The Preschool Program staff will be available to assist you during your child's preschool years and into the next transition which occurs when your child becomes age-eligible for Kindergarten in your school district.

