

# Early Intervention

## Early Intervention (birth to age 3)

### Evaluation

- A team (parents, service coordinator and at least one other professional) will conduct the evaluation.
- The evaluation includes testing in these developmental areas: thinking, communication, physical (including hearing and vision), socialization and self-help skills and must be done within 45 calendar days of your request.

### Eligibility

- The child must have a 25% delay in one or more of the tested developmental areas or have a diagnosed disability.

### Developing a Plan - The IFSP

- A team including the parent(s) writes an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) describing the outcomes expected for the child and family and the specific amount and type of services to be given.
- IFSPs are:
  - developed within 45 calendar days of referral to MH/MR
  - reviewed every 6 months
  - written every year
- IFSP meetings can be requested at any time to change the IFSP.

### Services

- Must be appropriate in amount of time and type to allow the child and family to achieve the outcomes written in the IFSP.
- Must be given in a location appropriate to meet the outcomes on the IFSP and, to the maximum extent appropriate, in natural environments.

### Transition

- A meeting will be held at least 90 days before your child turns 3.
- The meeting will be with parents, representatives from the MH/MR and education systems who are in charge of preschool special education in your area.

### Right to Disagree

- If you disagree with the evaluation, IFSP, services or place where services take place, you may:
  - File a complaint with the regional office of MH/MR.
  - Request mediation from the Special Education Mediation Service (SEMS).
  - Request a prehearing conference and/or due process hearing.

### [Return to Pre-school Services](#)

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