

A dark silhouette of a child sitting and reading a book, set against a dark blue background. The child's head is bowed, and their hands are holding an open book.

MAINE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

Child Find During the Summer

Presented by: Child Development Services





Objectives

- ✓ **Child Find Responsibilities**
- ✓ **Current practice**
- ✓ **Options for support with Child Find**



Referral Sources

- Parents
- Doctors
- DHHS
- Community Case Management
- Private Schools/ Daycares
- Public Pre-K
- Head Start Programs
- Early Intervention for ME

Child Find Responsibilities:

Policies and Procedures

Each SAU shall maintain and implement policies and procedures to ensure that all children residing in the jurisdiction between the ages of 3 and under 22 years of age, are identified, located and evaluated at public expense.

[34 CFR 300.111(a)(i,ii) and (c)(1,2)]

[MUSER IV.2.A]

Child Find Responsibilities:

Referrals

All referrals to the IEP Team must be acted upon in a timely manner. The IEP Team shall review existing evaluation data and determine the need for additional evaluations. The IEP Team may conduct its review without a meeting (V.3.B). If additional evaluations are needed, the IEU must send a consent to evaluate form within 15 days, and the SAU must send a consent to evaluate form within 15 school days, of the receipt of referral

[MUSER IV.2.E]



- CDS contacts parents within 3 days of receipt of referral
- Initial Referral Meeting
- Send meeting determinations (WN)
- Send Parental Consent To Evaluate within 15 days of receipt of referral
- Receipt of signed PCTE (60-day timeline starts)
- Refer for evaluations
- Meet to review evaluations/ determine eligibility for special education within 60 days

Timeline

Contact parents
within 3 days of
referral receipt

Parental Consent
within 15 days of
referral receipt

Receipt of signed
consent (60-day
timeline starts)

Eligibility Meeting
within 60 days of
consent receipt

How CDS can support- Option 1

“Early Childhood Special Education Coordinator” receives all referrals from referral source or forwarded from CDS



Follows district process for referrals



SAU holds eligibility meeting, completes paperwork, referrals for services according to district process



SAU reaches out to CDS support hub as needed

How CDS can support- Option 2

CDS receives all referrals from DATE to DATE

CDS contacts parents within 3 days of receipt of referral

Initial Referral Meeting

Follows CDS process for referrals

CDS receipt of signed PCTE (60-day timeline starts)

CDS refers for evaluations

CDS schedules a meeting to review evaluations/ determine eligibility for special education

How CDS Can Support- Option 3

CDS receives referrals for children outside district programs



Follows CDS process for referrals

SAU receives referrals from district programs or forwarded from CDS



Follows district process for referrals



How CDS Can Support- Option 4

CDS receives all
referrals from DATE to
DATE



Follows CDS process
for referrals



Scenario 1

Johnny, (D.O.B. 3/15/21) is referred by his pediatrician on May 2, 2025 related to speech concerns. The Initial Referral meeting takes place on May 12, 2025. Based on the needs, a referral for speech and language evaluation and eligibility observation were needed to determine eligibility for special education. Referrals are made for a speech evaluation and eligibility observation. Initial Eligibility Meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2025.



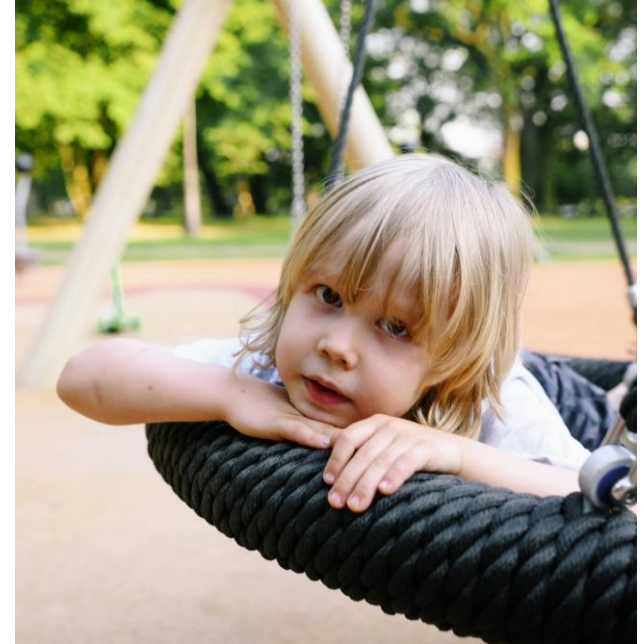


Scenario 2

Sally (D.O.B. 6/12/2021) is referred by her DHHS Case Worker with the following concerns: non-verbal, behavioral concerns and not in a program on July 10, 2025.

Scenario 3

Timmy (D.O.B. 7/22/22) was referred from Early Intervention, evaluations have been completed, and the Initial Eligibility Meeting must be scheduled prior to July 7, 2025.



Questions





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