



MAINE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

Transition from Early Intervention for ME

Presented by: OSSIE and EI for ME



EARLY
INTERVENTION
FOR ME

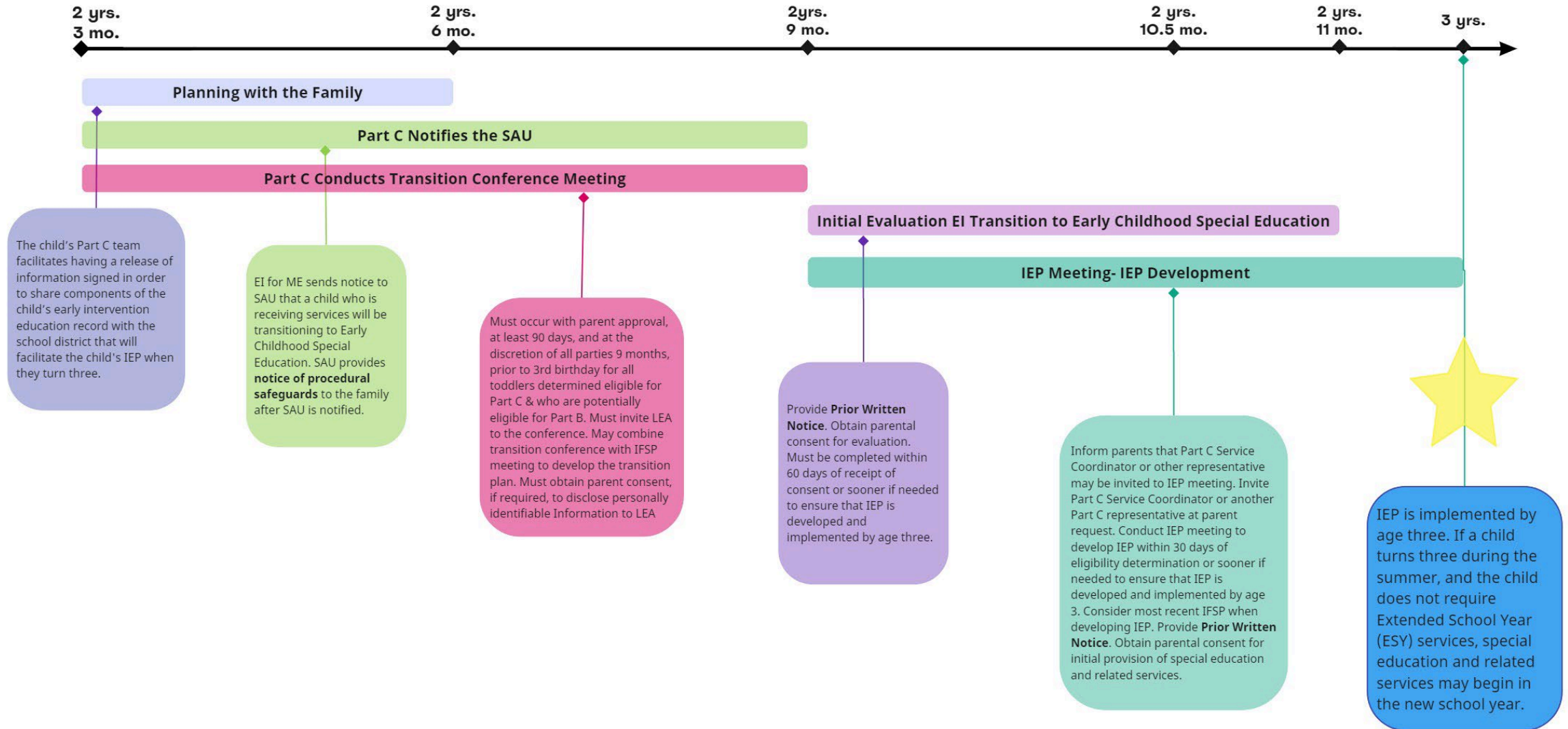
A Brighter Start, Birth to Three



Objectives

- Provide a brief overview of the transition process for children exiting early intervention who are potentially eligible for early childhood special education
- Collaborate to ensure that eligible children who have a summer birthday have an IEP written before their third birthday
- Review the transition process for children that are referred to Early Intervention for ME after their second birthday

Transition Activities for Children Referred to EI for ME at Least 90 Days Before the Third Birthday



Transition Steps / Meetings

Notification

Transition Conference

Initial Referral Meeting

Initial Eligibility Meeting

IEP by 3

Transition Conference

- Must be held at least 3 months before the child's third birthday
- Convened by Early Intervention for ME
- SAU representative shares information about transition, including:
 - The process to determine eligibility & next steps,
 - Potential supports & services if the child is determined eligible, including the location of services,
 - School registration resources to ensure that families are aware of this requirement.

After the Transition Conference

- The child's early intervention services will continue until the day before their third birthday
- Any subsequent evaluations or changes in the IFSP after the transition conference will involve early childhood special education staff so that they can remain up to date on the child's needs and services
- Early Intervention for ME is happy to help facilitate communication with the family, including:
 - Providing information about school registration
 - Supporting the family in completing parental consent for evaluation

IEP Initial Referral Meeting

- Occurs after the Transition Conference
- Convened by early childhood special education team
 - Advance / Prior Written Notice is sent by Part B
- Early Intervention for ME representative(s) are invited
- Present levels of performance are discussed, including the child's strengths and needs
- Existing evaluations are reviewed
- The team proposes potential additional evaluations
- Parental consent for evaluation is obtained after this meeting
 - Evaluations must be completed within 60 days of obtaining parental consent

IEP Initial Eligibility Meeting

- Must be held before the child's third birthday
- Occurs after the IEP Initial Referral Meeting
- Convened by early childhood special education team
 - Advance / Prior Written Notice is sent by Part B
- Early Intervention for ME representative(s) are invited
- Evaluations are reviewed
- Eligibility is determined
- IEP is developed

Summer Birthdays

- FAPE must be available to all children residing in the State between the ages of 3 and 22. Each State must ensure that: (i) the obligation to make FAPE available to each eligible child residing in the State begins no later than the child's third birthday;
- IDEA requires that a child referred from EI for ME be evaluated and FAPE provided by the child's third birthday. This may necessitate the SAU to conduct evaluations and develop IEPs over the summer.
- Since IEP implementation is not required to occur outside of the regular school year, an IEP written in the summer can be implemented at the beginning of the next school year.

Best Practice Considerations

Summer Birthdays:

- Early Intervention for ME operates on a calendar-year schedule
- Availability of school staff over the summer
 - Prioritize holding Transition Conferences for children that are currently enrolled in EI for ME in the spring before the child turns 3

Meetings:

- Whenever possible, it is important to invite EI for ME to IEP meetings, with parental consent
- Recommendations for collaboration

Late Referrals to EI for ME

45 - 90 days before the child's third birthday

Federal Regulations [34 C.F.R. §§ 303.209\(b\)\(1\)\(ii\)](#)

If the lead agency determines that the toddler is eligible for early intervention services under part C of the Act more than 45 but less than 90 days before that toddler's third birthday and if that toddler may be eligible for preschool services under part B of the Act, the lead agency, as soon as possible after determining the child's eligibility, notifies the SEA and the LEA for the area in which the toddler with a disability resides that the toddler on his or her third birthday will reach the age of eligibility for services under part B of the Act, as determined in accordance with State law.

Late Referrals

less than 45 before the child's third birthday

Federal Regulations [34 C.F.R. §§ 303.209\(b\)\(1\)\(iii\)](#)

If a toddler is referred to the lead agency fewer than 45 days before that toddler's third birthday and that toddler may be eligible for preschool services under part B of the Act, the lead agency, with parental consent required under [§303.414](#), refers the toddler to the SEA and the LEA for the area in which the toddler resides; but, the lead agency is not required to conduct an evaluation, assessment, or an initial IFSP meeting under these circumstances.

2 YEARS OLD

TIME BEFORE
THIRD BIRTHDAY

9 MONTHS

(CHILD AGE: 2 YEARS AND 3 MONTHS)

6 MONTHS

(2 YEARS AND 6 MONTHS OLD)

ACTIONS

Early Intervention for ME prepares the family for the formal transition process as soon as the child enters early intervention.

The family's Primary Service Provider and Service Coordinator share information about the transition process and obtain parental consent to share information with early childhood special education.

Early Intervention for ME requests that the parent sign consent to share information with early childhood special education when the child is determined eligible for early intervention.

The family's Service Coordinator schedules the Transition Conference as soon as possible and before the child reaches the age of 2 years and 9 months.

REFERRALS RECEIVED AFTER
2 YEARS OLD

TIME BEFORE
THIRD BIRTHDAY

3 MONTHS

(CHILD AGE: 2 YEARS AND 9 MONTHS)

1.5 MONTHS

(2 YEARS AND 10.5 MONTHS OLD)

ACTIONS

A transition conference is not required if the child is determined eligible for early intervention after they have reached the age of 2 years and 9 months old.

Early Intervention for ME may convene a transition conference to ensure a child's smooth transition out of early intervention and potentially into early childhood special education.

A child that is referred within a month and a half (45 days) of their third birthday can be referred directly to the early childhood special education program that serves their town.

A transition conference does not occur, as the child is not enrolled in early intervention.

Questions & Feedback

Ariana.Whiting@maine.gov





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