

Child Find

The intent of Child Find is that all children from birth through age 21 with delays or disabilities are identified, located and evaluated to receive the supports and services they need.

Public schools and the Arizona Early Intervention Program are responsible for “finding” eligible children and providing services needed for them to reach their developmental milestones or meet their educational needs.

When children are “found”, they are referred to a specialist to screen their development. The screening helps “identify” any areas of concern that need to be evaluated further. In order to receive early intervention or special education services, a child must be evaluated to confirm they have a delay or disability that falls under state definitions. If needed, the child is evaluated using state criteria for specific delays or disabilities. If eligible, the Arizona Early Intervention Program or a public school system will offer early intervention or special education services according to the child’s needs.

Early intervention support services assist families of children who are eligible by helping children ages birth to three years develop to their full potential. In Arizona, early intervention services are provided through the Arizona Early Intervention Program (or AzEIP). You can contact AzEIP at 602-532-9960.

Preschool special education services for children ages 3 to 5 provide special strategies to help children reach their developmental milestones. You can contact Joe Zello at 480-472-0719 for children ages 3 to 5 living in the Mesa Public School District. Special education services for school-aged children in kindergarten through the age of 21 provide specialized instruction and services to assist children in the educational environment.

For further information contact:

AZ FIND

1-822-352-4558 or 928-637-1871

azfind@azed.gov or www.azed.gov/specialeducation/az-childfind