

Parent Involvement

Parent involvement in the special education process is critical to your child's success. You're the best advocate for your child.

- Ask the school for a copy of the *Procedural Safeguards Notice*. This will explain your special education rights and responsibilities.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions. Find out what tests will be given to your child and why they have been considered.
- Be involved in your child's evaluation. Find out what kind of information you will be asked to contribute to the process.
- Request copies of important paperwork including a copy of the final report. Keep these documents in a safe place.
- Keep a log of phone calls. Use your calendar to keep track of testing dates and meetings.
- Contact a parent group for guidance. It helps to talk to other parents whose children have been evaluated for special education services.

EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

Dr. Sabrina Salmon
Exceptional Education Director
Telephone: (520) 225-6410

Amy Wilson
Exceptional Education Early Childhood Coordinator
Telephone: (520) 232-7036

Tucson Unified School District
Child Find
5145 E. 5th Street
Tucson, Az 85711

Pre-School Child Find Office:
Telephone: (520) 232-7034



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Exceptional Education
Child Find
Rev 07/15/2021

TUCSON UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Child Find

- ❖ Locate
- ❖ Evaluate

Check out these options if you're concerned about your child's development or progress in school.



What is Child Find?

It is a component of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act IDEA (2004) that requires states to *locate, identify, and evaluate* all children with disabilities, aged birth through 21, who are in need of early intervention or special education services.

Locate

Who is responsible for local Child Find activities?

Public schools and the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) are responsible for 'finding' eligible children.

Babies 0 to 2 yrs. 10 ½ mo.

Contact AzEIP for children aged birth until 2 years 10 ½ months of age if your child is showing difficulties with:

- Speaking/Understanding
- Hearing
- Walking/Running
- Self Help Skills
- Behavior/Social Skills
- Manipulating Small Objects/Drawing

There is no cost for this service.

An AzEIP specialist will talk with you about your concerns. For more information about the Arizona Early Intervention Program, Visit their website at www.azdes.gov.azeip, or call (520) 745-5588

Children 2 yrs. 10 ½ mo. To 5yrs

Contact the TUSD Child Find office at (520) 232-7034 for children 2 years 10.5 months through 5 years of age prior to September 1st of the current school year if you are concerned about your child's development or performance in the areas that affect development and learning in school:

- Vision & Hearing
- Motor control or coordination
- Behavior or social skills
- Speech or language skills
- Thinking or performing tasks

School Age Children K-12

For children kindergarten age through 21 years, call the principal's office at your local public school and ask to speak with the special education department about your concerns.



Evaluate

What happens next?

If an evaluation is needed, you will be part of the evaluation team. You can give important information on your child's developmental and medical history. The team, of which you are a part of, will discuss the results of the evaluation. You will be involved in the decision-making process to determine if your child is eligible for early intervention or special education services.

What is early intervention (ages 0-3)?

Early intervention is professionals working in partnership with parents and families of children with special needs, to support a child's growth, development, and learning. Early intervention is planned around each child and family's unique daily routines and family life. An Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) is developed to provide supports and services.

What is preschool special education and school aged special education (ages 3 through 21)?

It is specially designed instruction and related services provided to students with disabilities, preschool through high school. An Individual Education Program (IEP) is developed based on their unique strengths and needs. Related services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, or assistive technology might also be provided. Eligible students are entitled to a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).