

# CONCERNED about your child's development?



## Getting Started

Supporting families with children birth to age 3 with **developmental delays or disabilities** so they have the best possible start in life.



### Referral

**Early Intervention, or EI**, begins with a referral or self-referral. You will receive a call to explain services and what to expect. An assigned service coordinator helps your family with each step in the process. Your family decides whether to move forward.



### Eligibility

One of the first steps is to determine if your child is eligible for EI. For some children, EI professionals determine eligibility by evaluating the child, reviewing medical reports, and talking with parents. Other children are eligible because of a diagnosed condition.



### Assessment

If your child is eligible, your assessment team will learn more about how your child is developing and what their interests are. This team works to understand your family's routines and what's important to you and your child.



### Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

The team, with the family at the center, uses the information gathered to create an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). It details the services needed to help your family meet the outcomes you want, along with when, where, and how these services will be provided. Your IFSP will be completed within the first 45 days of referral and updated at least every six months.



### Service Delivery

Services must start within 30 days of you signing the IFSP. Services happen during activities that are important to your family in places where your child spends their day such as your home, childcare, or other places in the community. Each child is unique, and EI services focus on the specific needs of your family.

Throughout service delivery, your team will work closely with your family to help build your skills and confidence to support your child. As the EI journey comes to an end for your family, your team will help you make the smooth transition to your child's next learning environment.

**Learn more or start the referral process at [www.OhioEarlyIntervention.org](http://www.OhioEarlyIntervention.org)**

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### Act early!

**Early Intervention** is available in every part of the state and to any eligible child, regardless of the family's income.

Early Intervention professionals support your family to identify your child's strengths and needs and address concerns as early as possible.

Early Intervention can address all types of concerns, such as physical development like crawling or walking, speech delays, and social interaction like playing with other children.

Early Intervention focuses on building skills with your family in places where your child already spends time, like at home, childcare, and in the community

If you're concerned that your child may have a delay or disability, it's important to refer them for Early Intervention as soon as possible.

Anyone can refer a child to Early Intervention, and families can self-refer their child if they have concerns. All it takes is a simple phone call or filling out a short form online.

**Ohio** | Department of  
Developmental Disabilities



**1-800-755-GROW (4769)**  
**[www.ohioearlyintervention.org](http://www.ohioearlyintervention.org)**

Early Intervention is part of the  
Help Me Grow system of supports.

Help me grow

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT

WITH THE   
Ages & Stages  
Questionnaires

Still have questions about your child's development? Help Me Grow offers the **Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) Online** screening for Ohio families with children under age three to help parents understand how their child is developing.

This developmental screening is **free, short, and easy to complete**. You will only need 10-15 minutes. Screening can identify your child's strengths, uncover new milestones to celebrate, and reveal any areas where your child may need support.

Scan the QR code or visit  
**[www.helpmegrow.org/ASQ](http://www.helpmegrow.org/ASQ)**  
to access the ASQ Online.

