

Transition Planning Meeting

Happens 90 days to 9 months before your child is anticipated to leave early intervention. This *can* be as early as age 2 and *must* happen before your child's 3rd birthday.

Referral to Special Education, *if potentially eligible*

Your school division will let you know when they receive a referral from the Infant & Toddler Connection and will schedule a meeting within 10 business days of the referral date.

Initial School Meeting: Information Gathering & Evaluation

The school will get your permission to review records, discuss whether more evaluations are needed (and what those are), answer your questions, and get your written consent to evaluate.

Eligibility Meeting

The team will decide within 65 business days from the initial referral if your child is eligible for special education services under one of the 14 disability eligibility categories.

Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meeting

Within 30 calendar days of being found eligible for special education, the IEP team, which includes you, will meet to develop the IEP.

Services Begin

Early intervention services end and your child starts receiving the early childhood special education (ECSE) services in their IEP if the parents have consented to the IEP.

Tips for Moving from Early Intervention (EI) to Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)

1. Talk with the team about ways to help your child succeed and to [ensure a smooth transition from EI](#).
2. Learn what to expect during the ECSE [Referral to Eligibility](#) process and [timelines](#).
3. Learn about your [family's rights and procedural safeguards](#).
4. Talk to your EI Service Coordinator about who you should contact for questions before and after moving from EI services to ECSE services.
5. Review [What Does That Mean? A PEATC Guide to Special Education and Disability Terms in Virginia](#) to become familiar with key terms you may hear during the process.
6. Organize your child's records and jot down any questions you want to ask the school team.
7. Learn about the [different types of assessments](#) that are available.
8. Talk to other families about their experiences moving from EI to ECSE.
9. If your child is found eligible, draft your [parent input and concerns](#) and [prepare for the IEP meeting](#).
10. Learn about and visit the different types of classrooms that your child may attend. [Least Restrictive Environment \(LRE\)](#) applies to preschoolers with disabilities.
11. Talk to your child about going to the new program and take them there to visit before they start school. They can meet their new teacher and maybe some of their classmates.

Resources

- [Preparing for Transition from Early Intervention to an Individualized Education Program, PACER Center](#)
- [Transition From Early Intervention \(Part C\) to Early Childhood Special Education \(Part B\), VDOE](#)



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