

# Early Intervention Services: Birth to Age 3 Infant and Toddler Intervention Referrals and Resources

All children grow at their own rate. Some children experience delays in their development. Special health conditions might affect children's development, too. As a parent, you're the most important person when it comes to identifying services for your family. If you're concerned about your baby's or child's development, find infant and toddler intervention services as soon as possible.

## What Are Infant and Toddler Intervention Services?

Infant and toddler intervention includes services for children from birth to age 3.

Services include:

- Special instruction and other services, such as speech, physical and occupational therapy
- Ways to support your child's development at home
- Connections to community services and programs

## Who Provides Services?

You can bring your infant or toddler to Gillette for an evaluation, but intervention services are provided by government organizations and schools. Their early childhood specialists will work with you to plan your services and supports based on your child's and family's needs and priorities.

## Whom Do I Contact to Begin Services?

You have several options for getting started:

- Talk to your health care provider
- Call Minnesota's "Help Me Grow" program at 1-866-693-4769 to talk with an early childhood specialist
- Use the online referral form at <http://helpmegrowmn.org/HMG/Refer/index.html>

## Do I Need a Referral to Receive Services?

Yes, but it doesn't have to be a doctor's referral. You, your health care provider, or anyone else can refer your child for services.

## How Will I Know if My Child Qualifies?

Once your child is referred for services, a program representative will contact you. The representative will arrange an evaluation of your child to determine if your child is eligible for infant and toddler intervention services. The

evaluation process might include a visit to your home or another convenient location to talk about your concerns. The representative also will observe your child doing the things he or she normally does in that location.

The evaluation also will include a review of screening results, health and medical history you provide, and other information. When the process is complete, you'll be involved in the eligibility decision.

## **How Much Do Core Services Cost?**

If your child qualifies, your child can receive core services at no cost to your family. This includes service coordination, early childhood special education, and related services, such as occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech services.

## **What About Other Services?**

Depending on your child's and family's needs, additional services might include:

- Orthotics, Prosthetics and Seating devices and services
- Audiology services
- Family training, counseling and home visits
- Health services
- Medical services, diagnostic only
- Nursing services
- Nutrition services
- Psychological services
- Transportation and related costs
- Vision services
- Many other services

## **Resources**

### **[Help Me Grow](#)**

1-866-698-4769 (GROW)

**[Minnesota's early intervention system — Help Me Grow](#)** — includes two programs for eligible children. Eligible children can receive services in their home, school or child care setting. Services are free to children regardless of income or immigrant status.

### **[The Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights \(PACER\) Center](#)**

**[www.pacer.org](http://www.pacer.org)**

PACER provides information, resources and programs to expand opportunities and enhance the quality of life for children and young adults who have disabilities.

### **Bilingual Children and Early Intervention Services**

**[www.asha.org/public/speech/development/bilingualchildren](http://www.asha.org/public/speech/development/bilingualchildren)**

Bilingual children develop language skills as other children do, but there might be differences during some stages of the process. We encourage you to use the language(s) of your home with your child.

### **Multilingual Human Services Referral Phone Line**

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (MDHS) multilingual telephone service provides access to early childhood programs and services in 10 languages: Arabic, Hmong, Khmer (Cambodian), Lao, Oromo, Russian, Serbo-Croatian (Bosnian), Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese.

### **Questions?**

Please contact your pediatrician or Gillette health care provider, or call Gillette at 651-229-3900 and ask for a speech and language pathology clinical educator or a speech and language pathology supervisor.

**Make An Appointment** **651-290-8707**

This information is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice of your health care providers. If you have any questions, talk with your doctor or others on your health care team.

If you are a Gillette patient with urgent questions or concerns, please contact Telehealth Nursing at **651-229-3890**.