



Family Resources & Child Development Information

Early Childhood Intervention Services

Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)

A statewide program within the Texas Health and Human Services Commission for families with children birth up to age 3, with developmental delays, disabilities or certain medical diagnoses that may impact development. ECI services support families as they learn how to help their children grow and learn.

Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS): Prevention and Early Intervention Program (PEI)

PEI contracts with community-based programs and agencies to provide a variety of services that help prevent abuse, neglect, delinquency, and truancy of Texas children. Not all services are available in all Texas communities. Services are free of charge and participation is voluntary.

DSHS Texas Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program (TEHDI)

The Texas Department of State Health Services is the oversight state agency for ensuring that newborns and young children are identified as early as possible if they are deaf or hard of hearing. For information on hearing screening or follow up testing contact the Texas Early Hearing Detection and Intervention program (TEHDI).

800-252-8023 ext. 7726

Head Start

Head Start is a federal program that promotes the school readiness of children from birth to 5 from families with low-income by enhancing their cognitive, social and emotional development.

866-282-7780

Healthy Outcomes through Prevention and Early Support (HOPES)

Project HOPES is a program provided through DFPS Prevention and Intervention program. It provides support to families with children birth to 5 years of age. Project HOPES is a community-based program intended to address the prevention of child abuse and neglect by focusing on community collaboration in high-risk counties and by increasing protective factors of families served.

Texas Home Visiting Programs (THV)

THV programs are provided through the DFPS Prevention and Early Intervention program. The goal of THV programs is to enhance maternal and child outcomes and to increase school readiness for children. THV services focus on the provision of evidence-based home visiting services for at-risk pregnant women and parents/caregivers of children birth to age 5.

- Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP)
Services to first-time, low-income mothers to improve pregnancy outcomes, improve child health and development, improve family economic self-sufficiency and stability, and reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect
- Parents as Teachers (PAT)
Service to families prenatally through age five to enhance parent child attachment, school readiness, knowledge of parenting, improve family economic self-sufficiency and stability, and reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect
- Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY)

Service for families with children ages three to five to enhance school readiness including cognitive and social emotional development of children.

Prekindergarten Programs

Prekindergarten programs may be provided in certain school districts throughout Texas. The Texas Education Agency provides information for these services.

Preschool Programs for Children with Disabilities (PPCD)

PPCD provides special education services for any eligible child with an identified need who is three to five years of age . PPCD refers to the services provided by the school district, not to the place where they are provided. Eligible children may receive PPCD services in a variety of settings such as pre-kindergarten, resource, and self-contained classrooms or in community settings such as Head Start and pre-school.

Texas Office for Prevention of Developmental Disabilities (TOPDD)

TOPDD is an organization that mobilized the state to collaborate on key issues around developmental disabilities with a particular focus on preventing neurodevelopmental disorders associated with prenatal alcohol exposure and brain trauma and improving the lives of children who are experiencing significant brain differences. TOPDD activities include awareness events, targeted trainings, webinars and discussion groups for educators, health professionals, state leaders, regional leaders and families.

Additional information and resources can be found at the Texas Health & Human Services website about Early Childhood Intervention Services:

<https://www.hhs.texas.gov/services/disability/early-childhood-intervention-services>

Child Development Resources

Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL).

CSEFEL promotes the social emotional development and school readiness of children from birth to 5.

Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA Center)

This website helps families understand their rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), connect with other families, and find high-quality resources related to caring for infants, toddlers and young children with disabilities.

Frank Porter Graham (FPG) Child Development Center

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

For 50 years, FPG's research, technical assistance, outreach and service have shaped how the nation cares for and educates young children.

Technical Assistance Center of Social and Emotional Intervention (TACSEI)

The Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention for Young Children (TACSEI) utilizes research and best practices to create no cost products and resources to improve social-emotional outcomes for young children.

Texas Infant and Toddler Early Learning Guidelines (ITELGs)

The guidelines help families of young children, caregivers and early educators understand what babies and young children should know and be able to do at different points in their development. Developmental milestones are organized by physical health and motor development, social and emotional development, language and communication, and cognitive development.

Zero to Three

Zero to Three has information for parents, professionals and public policy leaders that helps promote awareness of baby and toddler development.

800-899-4301

The CDC provides detailed information about key Developmental Milestones on their website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/index.html>

Nutrition Resources

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

The AAP provides resources and articles about Nutrition & Fitness on their website [HealthyChildren.org](https://www.healthychildren.org).

- [Toddler Nutrition](#)
- [Toddler Fitness](#)
- [Preschool Nutrition & Fitness](#)

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

The USDA provides important information about eating healthy for all ages on their website at [MyPlate.gov](https://www.myplate.gov).