

Child Find's Mission Statement

The purpose of ACPS Child Find is to locate and evaluate children who are suspected of having a developmental delay or disability. If it is determined that a child's disability interferes with his or her learning, Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) and/or other additional services may be recommended. Other services may include, but are not limited to, speech/language therapy, physical therapy or occupational therapy.



Who may refer a child?

A child may be referred to ACPS

Child Find by any of the following people:

- Parent/legal guardian
- Family member or friend
- Physician
- School personnel
- Childcare provider
- Community agency
- Infant Toddler Connection - Parent Infant Education (ITC-PIE) staff

Parent/Legal Guardian involvement is needed for further action by ACPS

Additional resources:

- **Virginia Department of Education Early Childhood**
<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/early-childhood/preschool>
- **Parent's Guide to Special Education**
Virginia Department of Education
http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/parents/parents_guide.pdf
- **Infant & Toddler Connection – Parent Infant Education Program (ITC-PIE)**
(for ages 0 to 3)
<https://www.infantva.org> or **703-746-3350**
- **ACPS School Directory**
(for school ages 5 years to 22 years)
<https://www.acps.k12.va.us/ourschools> or **703-619-8000**

ACPS Child Find

For more information please contact:

703-578-8217 or
childfind@acps.k12.va.us

Child Find
and

Early Childhood Special Education Services

Jefferson-Houston School
1501 Cameron Street, Room 235
Alexandria, VA 22314



Child Find and Early Childhood Special Education Services



**We can help you answer questions
about your child's development.**

ACPS Child Find offers free screenings and/or evaluations for children two years of age by September of the current school year through five years of age (prior to kindergarten), who are suspected of having developmental delays, or a disability that may be impacting his or her learning or educational performance.

Referral

ACPS Child Find offers FREE screenings and/or evaluations for children two to five years of age, suspected of having a developmental delay or disability.



When should a child be referred to Child Find?

- When a child may not be meeting developmental milestones in communication, physical development, thinking/reasoning, self-help, and/or social interaction skills.
- When a physical condition or medical disorder is interfering with a child's development and/or learning skills.

NOTE: Children may exhibit some, not necessarily all, of these characteristics. Any condition that affects a child's ability to learn may be the basis for a referral. Concerns need not be limited to those listed above.

Screening

What to Expect at a Screening Appointment

Parent/guardian discusses child's development with Child Find staff.

Child is screened in areas of development by Early Childhood Special Educators:

- Communication skills
- Reasoning/thinking skills
- Self-help/adaptive skills
- Personal-social skills
- Motor skills

Staff reviews the results with parent/guardian and discusses any next steps to support the child in his or her learning.

The following documentation is required:

- Proof of Alexandria residency (two forms)
- Child's original birth certificate
- Parent/guardian identification (driver's license or passport) or proof of legal custody or guardianship (if applicable)

How to begin:

Please contact ACPS Child Find at
703-578-8217 or
childfind@acps.k12.va.us

The Process

Based on your child's screening results, ACPS may recommend a follow-up meeting to determine if further evaluations or interventions are necessary.

First Step: Child Study Meeting

- Team review of child's strengths and needs with parent/guardian present
- Determination of need for a referral of further evaluations or monitoring
- Parent/Guardian consent will be required for further evaluations

Second Step: Evaluation Appointment(s)

- Evaluations are conducted related to area(s) of suspected disability

Third Step: Eligibility Meeting (within 65 business days of referral)

- Team review of evaluations with parent/guardian present
- Review eligibility criteria in area of suspected disability(ies)

Fourth Step: If eligible, Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meeting (within 30 calendar days of eligibility)

- Team review of student's strengths and needs with parent/guardian present
- Review annual goals developed by IEP team
- Review services
- Parent/Guardian consent will be required to implement services