

Wilcox County Schools Child Find

What is Child Find?

The purpose of Child Find is to identify, locate, and evaluate children and youth, birth to age 21, who are suspected of, or have a disability or developmental delay. Wilcox County Schools serve children ages 3 through 21 with identified special education needs.

How can children be referred?

A referral may be made by anyone who has a concern about a child's development. All referrals are considered confidential. The parent retains the right to refuse services. Children may be referred by any of the following:

- Parents/legal guardians/foster parents
- Other family members
- Physicians/health care providers
- Preschool programs
- School system personnel
- Community Agencies
- Private school personnel
- Others who are concerned about a child's development
- Parents of home school/home study programs

When should a child be referred to Child Find?

A child should be referred when:

- A health or medical disorder interferes with development or learning
- A child seems to have difficulty seeing or hearing
- A child appears to have social, emotional, or behavioral difficulties that affect his/her ability to learn
- A child has diagnosed progressive or degenerative condition that will eventually impair or impede the child's ability to learn.
- A child seems to have difficulty understanding directions like others that are his/her age.
- A child's speech is not understandable to family or friends.

- A child has difficulty with reading, math, or other school subjects.

What is Special Education and who is eligible for services?

A child must be evaluated and identified as having a disability to be eligible for Special Education and/or related services. Disability categories are: Autism Spectrum Disorder, Deaf/Blind, Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Emotional and Behavioral Disorder, Intellectual Disabilities, Orthopedic Impairment, Other Health Impairment, Significant Developmental Delay, Specific Learning Disability, Speech/Language Impairment, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Visual Impairment. Contact the Special Education Director, Dale Garnto, for a definition of each eligibility category.

Where can I find out more about Child Find?

Please contact your child’s teacher or principal. You can also call Student Support Services at 229-467-2141 Ext. 24.

Please sign, date, and return to school. Thank you.

Childs Name

Parent’s Name

Date