

What is PREP?

PREP stands for “Preschool Readiness Education Program”. It is a special education program designed for children ages 3-5 with disabilities or developmental delays.

What is a Developmental Delay?

The term significant developmental delay refers to a delay in a child’s development to the extent that, if not provided with special intervention, the delay may adversely affect a child’s educational performance in age-appropriate activities. The term does not apply to children who are experiencing a slight or temporary lag in one or more areas of development or a delay that is primarily due to environmental, cultural, or economic disadvantage or lack of experience in age-appropriate activities.

The five areas of development:

- **Communication**
- **Cognition**
- **Social/emotional development**
- **Motor Skills**
- **Adaptive (self-help skills)**

PREP

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Works Cited:

Preschool Special Education Frequently Asked Questions,
<https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-nstructionand-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Documents/Pre/Preschool%20FAQs.pdf>

Significant Developmental Delay,
<https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Pages/Significant-Developmental-Delay.aspx>

PREP

Preschool Readiness Education Program



A program in Stephens County for preschool aged children with disabilities or developmental delays

How is a child referred to PREP?

Parents, doctors, preschool teachers, day care workers, or Babies Can't Wait can make a referral to PREP.

Who qualifies for PREP?

Children ages 3, 4, or 5 who are found to be eligible due to delays in:

- Communication
- Physical Abilities
- Adaptive Skills
- Social-Behavior Skills
- Cognitive Abilities

Children may also qualify if they have hearing or vision impairments or medical disabilities.

What is the evaluation process?

Once a child is referred or a parent requests an evaluation, parents will be given a consent to evaluate form that gives Stephens County School District consent to complete the evaluation. After the evaluation is completed, the district will schedule a meeting with parents to review the evaluation results and determine if the child is eligible for special education services. If he/she is found eligible, the committee (including parents) will determine the best services to meet the child's needs and develop an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for the school to use.

How early can my child be evaluated to determine eligibility?

The evaluation process can begin at 2.5 years old.

I think my child has special needs and he/she has not turned 2.5 yet. Who should I contact?

Georgia's Early Intervention program is Babies Can't Wait (BCW). This program is administered by the Georgia Department of Public Health. Speak with your pediatrician regarding a referral to Babies Can't Wait.

Tell me more about PREP



PREP Services may include placement in a Special Education Preschool class at Big A Elementary. PREP classes are either two or three days a week.

PREP Services may be supported by:

- Speech-Language Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Vision Impairment Services
- Hard of Hearing Services
- Special Transportation

Is there a fee or income requirement to attend PREP?

No. PREP services fall under IDEA, a law that requires that students with disabilities are provided with a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).