

Early Childhood Screening

Help your child get ready for kindergarten.



Early childhood screening is a quick, simple check of how your child is growing, developing and learning during the important years before starting school.

At your child's screening, a trained professional will check:

- Vision
- Hearing
- Height and weight
- Immunization (shots) status
- Large and small muscles
- Thinking, language and communication skills
- Social and emotional development

Some school districts may offer additional screening, including dental and nutrition reviews.

Public Schools Require Screening

For your child to start kindergarten in any Minnesota public school, you will need to provide his or her Early Childhood Screening Summary Form, as well as a record of immunizations. The information from your child's Early Childhood Screening is important for future school success.

To schedule a screening, call your local school district. School districts provide screening at no charge. (A health and developmental screening from Head Start, the Child and Teen Checkups program or your health care provider may also meet the requirements.)

Earlier is Better

Screening between the ages of 3 and 4 is recommended to detect possible health or learning issues, so that children can get help before they start kindergarten. It is important not to wait too long.

Early childhood developmental screening helps a school district identify children who may benefit from district and community resources available to help in their development. Early childhood developmental screening includes a vision screening that helps detect potential eye problems but is not a substitute for a comprehensive eye exam.

How To Schedule An Early Childhood Screening

If your child is 3-4 years old, contact your local school district, go online to find the nearest screening location (choose Early Childhood Screening from the dropdown menu at <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/ELSSearch>) or call: **651-582-8412**



How To Prepare For Your Child's Screening

Bring your notes about your child's growth and development, as well as any questions or concerns. You can record some of your observations on this card.

Things that my child does well:

Questions about my child's health:

Questions about my child's development (learning, walking, talking, etc.):

Questions about my child's seeing or hearing:

Other questions:

Other Information To Bring

Please bring along the names and phone numbers of your child's pediatrician, other health care providers and clinic/hospital. In addition, bring your child's Immunization Record (vaccinations and shots) to the Early Childhood Screening appointment.

