

HOW SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES ARE PROVIDED TO THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLD CHILDREN

Now that you have contacted the school district about your child, you might be wondering what you can expect next. We are here to help!

The Mid-State **Early Childhood Family and Community Engagement Center (EC FACE Center)** is here to help you with all stages of the referral process. It may sound complicated, but if your child qualifies, special education programs and services are very useful.

Call the EC FACE Center 315-443-4352 if you need help figuring out:

- Should I even make this referral?
- How do I pick an evaluator?
- What is a preschool evaluation?
- What types of services are available that might be helpful for my child?
- How are decisions made about the services that my child will receive?

Here is some information to get you started:

Preschool children who have a special need may be eligible for special services under CPSE (The Committee on Preschool Special Education). Each school district administers the services through its special education department. Children who receive special education services may include those with:

- language delays (talking and understanding)
- motor delays (walking and movement)
- hearing and visual impairments
- behavior concerns
- cognitive delays
- other developmental delays or difficulties

If you have a concern for your child's development, you can refer your child to the CPSE at your school district. The Chairperson will send you a list of agencies to choose from who can evaluate your child. The EC FACE Center is here to help you understand the evaluation process. When selecting an evaluator, please keep in mind the New York State Education Department requires that preschool children complete the evaluation and an Individualized Education Program (IEP) is developed, if eligible, within 60 calendar days from the date the school district CPSE receives your signed consent to evaluate. You may consider selecting a second or third choice for an evaluator in the event that the availability for scheduling falls close to or beyond the 60 calendar day timeline.

The EC FACE Center can also provide information for parents on the CPSE meeting process, types of preschool special education services, and how services may be provided.

You are a member of the committee and you participate in the decision-making process!

We understand that the process can be overwhelming, please contact us for assistance in exploring the best services for your child.



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