



Fennville Public School Child Find Information

What is Child Find?

Child Find and public awareness activities are conducted to ensure children and youth suspected of having an educational disability who may need Special Education support and/or services are located and identified. Allegan Area Educational Service Agency (ESA) and its member districts share the Child Find responsibility.

Child Find in Michigan applies to children age birth to 26 and includes activities designed to identify individuals who are home with their families, enrolled in a public or private preschool, enrolled in a K-12 public or private school, hospitalized, enrolled in an adult education program, or incarcerated who may have an educational disability.

Who coordinates Child Find activities in Fennville Public School?

The Fennville Public Schools Supervisor of Specialized Instruction, along with local staff, is the designated individual to conduct and to coordinate Child Find activities.

These individuals can assist in:

- Identifying children birth to 3 years of age with an established condition, developmental delay or disability.
- Identifying individuals 3 to 26 years of age who may have an educational disability that adversely impacts their functional or academic performance, both in school and out of school.
- Guiding families to the appropriate educational services within their school district of residence.
- Finding additional information to assist families with children who have educational needs.

Allegan Area ESA's Early On Program supports Michigan's Early On campaign by helping to locate and identify young children birth through 3 who have an established condition, a developmental delay or are at risk of a developmental delay.

Member districts support Michigan's Build Up Michigan campaign by helping to locate and identify young children, ages 3 through 5, who may be in need of special education support and/or services. Allegan Area ESA supports the local school district's efforts in this regard by maintaining a referral link on the website and connecting individuals who make inquiries to appropriate educational services within their district of residence.

What are Fennville Public Schools Child Find public awareness activities?

Fennville Public Schools is responsible for public awareness and Child Find procedures for in school and out of school youth ages 5-26 through their local awareness activities and the Special Education referral process.

In collaboration with Allegan Area ESA, the staff promote public awareness of disabilities and the availability of Special Education programs and services. Examples of public awareness activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Ongoing communication and outreach
- Participation in area information fairs
- Distribution of printed materials
- Informational website
- Media coverage

In collaboration with Allegan Area ESA, the staff establish cooperative liaisons with other professionals and community agencies who may be potential referral sources. Examples of professionals and community agencies include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Community resources including the Allegan County Directory and organizations intended to support individuals with disabilities or their families like the ARC of Allegan County
- Facilities and services for incarcerated and/or adjudicated youth and young adults, including Allegan County Jail, Allegan Youth Home and Cheever Treatment Center
- Area hospitals, healthcare agencies, health care clinics and other health care providers
- Community agencies including the Allegan County Health Department, Department of Health and Human Services, Allegan County Community Mental Health
- Child Care and Preschool programs including Head Start, Great Start Readiness Program, and local private centers
- Parent organizations including Help Me Grow Allegan, the Allegan Area ESA Parent Advisory Committee and Michigan Alliance for Families

Additional Resources

Michigan Department of Education Office of Special Education - [Child Find Guidance](#)

Michigan Department of Education Office of Special Education - [FAPE for Adult Learners Guidance](#)