



Milwaukee County  
**Birth to 3**   
Program

## What can families expect when they contact the Birth to 3 Program?

Families in Milwaukee County who are concerned their child may have developmental delays or disabilities can reach out to Birth to 3 for assistance. All conversations are confidential and can be done remotely over the phone or online.

### A resource & referral coordinator will help you:

- Make a referral to the Birth to 3 Program
  - A resource & referral coordinator can take your referral over the phone. Name of child, date of birth, parent/legal guardian information and reason for concern will need to be provided.
- Once a referral is complete, it is assigned to one of the Birth to 3 provider agencies.
- A Service Coordinator will contact you to help in the coordination and management of the referral and child's process in the Birth to 3 Program.

## What can families expect during the Birth to 3 eligibility process?

- Families will receive a phone call from a Service Coordinator welcoming them to the Birth to 3 Program and explaining the Birth to 3 process. When children are referred to the Birth to 3 Program a decision is made whether to conduct a screening or to begin the early intervention evaluation process. If a screening needs to be conducted that appointment is scheduled with the family during this phone call.
- During the screening a brief questionnaire which helps determine if an evaluation is needed is conducted. If the result requires further evaluation, an evaluation is scheduled with the family. The evaluation will determine whether the child is eligible for the Birth to 3 Program.
- During the evaluation process, the Service Coordinator and at least two professionals knowledgeable about your child's suspected developmental areas of need will be present to conduct the evaluation. Families observations are key to identifying the child's strengths and needs.
  - Following the evaluation, the Early Intervention (EI) team will meet with the family to review the evaluation results.
  - If the EI Team determines that the child is not eligible, the EI team may offer to rescreen the child within 6 months. The Service Coordinator will have suggestions or information about other resources to share with the family and assist in locating and gaining access to community services that families may find helpful to the child and family.
- After the evaluation and assessment, the family and other members of the team will be ready to develop a plan for the child and family. This plan is called the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).
  - The IFSP is a collaborative partnership between the family and the early intervention professionals and is the framework for the family's involvement in the Birth to 3 Program.
  - The IFSP is designed to identify outcomes most important to the family and the strategies, resources, supports and services necessary to help reach them.
  - The IFSP meeting will be scheduled after the evaluation, within 45 days of the date the child was referred to the Birth to 3 Program. The meeting will be at a time and place that is convenient to the family.
  - Families will receive a completed copy of the IFSP.
- At any time, the Service Coordinators and Early Interventionists can provide you with information about, and referrals to, important resources in our community.

**Have questions? You can reach the Birth to 3 Program between 9:00AM - 5:00PM at 414-289-6799 or by email [birth\\_to\\_threedsd@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:birth_to_threedsd@milwaukeecountywi.gov)**