



Family Resource: Leaving the Birth to 3 Program

The Birth to 3 Program serves eligible children from birth until their third birthday. Some children meet or achieve all of the goals on their Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) and graduate from the Birth to 3 Program before age 3. For children who graduate and leave the Birth to 3 Program before age 3, the Early Intervention team will help you determine your future steps through a transition planning process.

What is the transition planning process?

Transition planning is an ongoing process and happens in a mixture of different ways, including informal discussion and scheduled meetings. Your Service Coordinator will guide you through the transition planning process and will facilitate the development of a written Transition Plan to be included in your family's IFSP.

Transition planning activities include:

- Discussion and information gathering about options for future services and supports in your community
- Help in preparing you and your child for changes in services
- Supplying information about your child (such as evaluation and IFSPs), with your written consent, to other providers

What is the timeline for transition planning?

- Entry into the Birth to 3 Program
 - When your child enters the Birth to 3 Program, staff will provide you with information about the Local Education Agency (referred to as LEA) Notification and Opt Out Policy. (This is the local school early childhood special education services your child may benefit from as they go through school.) They will also begin to talk to you about transitions that will occur when your child leaves the Birth to 3 Program.
- 2 yrs 3 months (27 mo.)
 - The Birth to 3 Program will notify the school that your child is close to turning three (unless you signed the Opt Out form)
- 2 yrs 9 months (33 mo.)
 - After the 2 yrs 3 mo before 2 yrs 9 mo, the Birth to 3 Program will determine if your child is eligible for the local education agency (LEA).
 - If your child is NOT determined to be potentially eligible for special education services with the school, the Birth to 3 Program will review and discuss other options available to your child to support his/her exit from the Birth to 3 Program.



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What is the timeline for transition planning?

- If your child IS determined to be potentially eligible, the Birth to 3 Program must refer your child to the LEA by the time your child is 2 yrs 9 mo. of age. The Birth to 3 Program will organize a Transition Planning Conference with the school at least 90 days before your child turns 3.
- 3 years
 - Your child leaves the Birth to 3 Program by his or her 3rd birthday.

What services are available after leaving the Birth to 3 Program?

Each child and family is unique in the types of support and services that may be needed for their child and family. Your Service Coordinator will help you find options available in your community.

Some of these options may include:

- Local school early childhood special education services (referred to as LEA)
- Playgroups
- Preschools or child care
- Head Start
- Library groups
- Private therapy services

If you have any questions about this process, please contact your Birth to 3 program Service Coordinator.

