

Birth to 3: Frequently Asked Questions



What is the Birth to 3 Program? The Birth to 3 Program is an early intervention program for infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities. The Birth to 3 Program provides a range of services to families to enhance their child's development. The Birth to 3 Program is "family-centered" and recognizes the importance of parents, family, and friends in a young child's life.

How does my child qualify for the Birth to 3 Program? The Birth to 3 Program is for children ages birth to 36 months. Each child referred to the program will receive a team evaluation that includes two or more professionals from the following areas: Early childhood/special education, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy. Eligibility is based on a 25% delay in one or more areas of development, a diagnosed condition that is likely to result in a developmental delay, or atypical (unusual) development that is likely to affect overall development.

How do I refer my child to the Birth to 3 Program? Referrals to the Birth to 3 Program may come from anyone who has concerns about a child's development, which includes parents and guardians, friends, doctors, neighbors, and childcare providers. The Calumet County Birth to 3 Program accepts referrals by calling (920) 849-1400 or Toll-Free 833-620-2730.

What happens when my child turns 3 years of age? If your child is currently enrolled in the Birth to 3 Program, your service coordinator will work with you to develop a transition plan at least 6 to 9 months prior to your child turning 3 years old. Your child can transition to your local education agency or public school, head start program, or other programs within the community.

Is there a cost for families in the Birth to 3 Program? The following services are available at no cost to families that have a child who is eligible or may be eligible for the Birth to 3 Program: Referral, Screening, Evaluation, Development of the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), and Service Coordination.

Families that are in the Birth to 3 Program are asked to provide access to bill their insurance company. In Wisconsin, the Birth to 3 Program uses a Parental Cost Share System where parents share in the cost of early intervention services for their child. The Parental Cost Share System takes into consideration your family size and net family income. Children will not be denied services because families are unable to pay.

What services are available for my child in the Birth to 3 Program? To meet the outcomes that families identify within the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), early intervention services may include service coordination, special instruction, speech-language pathology, occupational therapy, and physical therapy.

Why are services provided in the natural environment instead of a clinic? For each child, the natural environment may be a different setting. Learning within natural environments includes the use of your family's everyday activity settings, your child's interests, and your own responsiveness to your child. Family activities provide many opportunities for your child to practice new skills.

For more information or to make a referral, contact:
Calumet County Birth to Three
206 Court Street | Chilton, WI 53014 | (920) 849-1400

