

# What should you know about Early Intervention?

**Early Intervention** is available in every part of the state and to any eligible child, regardless of the family's income.

Because children learn best with familiar people and in familiar places, Early Intervention services are usually provided in the home or a community setting. Virtual options may also be available.

Early Intervention services can be provided side-by-side with other services a family receives in their community.

Anyone can refer a child to Early Intervention, and families can self-refer their child if they have concerns. You do not need to be a doctor or teacher to refer a child. All it takes is a simple phone call or filling out a short form online.

## CONCERNED about your child's development?

### Act early!



**1-800-755-GROW (4769)**  
**[www.ohioearlyintervention.org](http://www.ohioearlyintervention.org)**

**Ohio** | Department of  
Developmental Disabilities



Early Intervention is part of the  
Help Me Grow system of supports.



In Ohio, the Early Intervention Program fulfills the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C (Early Intervention program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities).

The full text of the law is online at  
[idea.ed.gov/download/statute.html](http://idea.ed.gov/download/statute.html)



## CONCERNED? Act early!



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# What is Early Intervention?

Early Intervention is part of the Help Me Grow system of supports.

Early Intervention supports families with children birth to age three who have developmental delays or disabilities so that they have the best possible start in life. The early years are a critical time, so parents, families, doctors, and others who are concerned about a child's development should refer a child to Early Intervention as early as possible.

In recent years, more than **95 percent** of Ohio parents who accessed Early Intervention for their child reported they were better able to support their child in learning new things and gaining new skills.



## How can Early Intervention help your child and family?

Every child is unique.

Early Intervention professionals support your family to identify your child's strengths and needs and address concerns as early as possible.

Research shows that Early Intervention services give a child the best chance to learn and grow. Early support can reduce the need for services later in life.

Early Intervention can address all types of concerns, such as physical development like crawling or walking, speech delays, and social interaction like playing with other children.

## How does Early Intervention work?

Parents and families are the center of a child's development. That's why Early Intervention works closely with your family to build on your skills and confidence in supporting your child.

Developmental experts will determine if your child is eligible for services and will support your family in addressing your child's specific developmental, physical, social, and emotional needs.

Early Intervention focuses on building skills with your family in places where your child already spends time, like at home, childcare, and in the community.



If you're concerned that your child may have a delay or disability, it's important to refer them for Early Intervention as soon as possible.