WHAT IS THE COST TO FAMILIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM?

The multidisciplinary evaluation is free to families who would like to participate. If the child is found eligible for services, we follow a coordinated system of payment to cover the cost of those services that include voluntary parent participation, public or private insurance or other funds that may be available before accessing state and federal funds.

WHY DO EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES WORK FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS?

The term “early” is important because research shows that the first three years are the most important time for developing and learning in a child’s life. The goal of the EI Colorado program is to “open a window of opportunity” for families to help their children with special needs develop to their full potential. It many also prevent or decrease the need for special help later during the school age years.

Colorado's Early Learning and Development Guidelines

The Guidelines describe the path of children’s learning and development from birth to eight years old. They’re designed so that everyone who cares for young children can play an important part in giving Colorado’s kids a healthy start.

The Guidelines are based on research and bring together widely accepted strategies to help children develop successfully. For the first time, experts from across Colorado have woven together their knowledge about these important years.

The Colorado Early Learning and Developmental Guidelines are a helpful resource whether you’re a first-time parent or caregiver — or an experienced professional. The Guidelines describe kids’ abilities at certain ages and offer tips for how adults can help develop and support those abilities.

To find out more, visit www.earlylearningco.org.

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WHAT IS THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM?
The early intervention program provides developmental supports and services to children birth through two years of age who have special developmental needs. It can help improve a child's ability to develop and learn. It can also help families learn ways to support and promote their child's development within their daily activities and community life.

WHEN SHOULD I REFER A CHILD TO THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM?
Anyone can refer a child when there is a concern about a child's development. Anyone can refer a child that has a diagnosis or a condition that could affect child development such as, Down Syndrome, bilateral hearing loss, Autism, low birth weight...

WHO CAN REFER A CHILD TO THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM?
Anyone! Family, friends, neighbors, doctors, teachers....(for statewide referral contacts and referral forms visit www.eicolorado.org)

WHO CAN BE REFERRED TO THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM?
Any child under the age of 2 years and 11 months old. (If there are concerns for a child over the age of 2 yrs 11months, refer to their local school district.)

WHERE DO I MAKE/SEND A REFERRAL?
If the family is residing in Weld Co, referrals can be sent to Envision by fax, mail or secure email or can be called in to our offices. Phone: 970-313-2629 Fax: 970-330-0153 Mail: 1050 37th St PO Box 200069 Evans, CO 80620

WHEN WILL I HEAR BACK IF I REFER A CHILD?
After referring a child you will receive a referral update status by fax that will tell you who the ongoing service coordinator will be and their contact information as well as the status of the referral. This will be your first referral status update, if we have signed consent to share more information, future updates will be sent to you letting you know the case status. At any time you can call the assigned service coordinator with questions or concerns.

WHO IS A SERVICE COORDINATOR?
A service coordinator is responsible for explaining the program to families, facilitating the development of the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) for eligible families, assisting the family with finding providers and any provide ongoing support around any questions, concerns, access to other resources, explaining family rights, transition planning and future IFSP development.

WHEN WILL THE CHILD BE EVALUATED?
If a family agrees to go forward with a screening or a multidisciplinary evaluation, the evaluation to determine eligibility must be completed within 45 days of the referral date.

WHAT MAKES A CHILD ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM?
The evaluation team will assess all areas of development that include communication, adaptive, physical, social emotional and cognitive skills. Any child that has a 25% or great delay in one or more of these developmental areas is eligible to participate. Any child that has an established condition is eligible for the program regardless of the percentage of delay. (The established condition list can be found on the Colorado Early Intervention Website www.eicolorado.org)

WHAT ARE EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES?
Early Intervention Services are provided to meet the developmental needs of an eligible infant or toddler, and the needs of a parent or other caregivers, to achieve the outcomes identified in the Individualized Family Service Plan. Services must be related to functional outcomes and developmentally appropriate practices to support participation in everyday routines, activities and places, and provided by qualified providers who meet the state personnel standards for each early intervention service. All services must be provided in the natural environments of the child and family to the maximum extent appropriate.

WHEN WILL SERVICES START IF THE CHILD IS ELIGIBLE?
Services should begin no later than 28 days from the date of consent to those services.