



What is required?

Child Find

- ▶ All PEAs in the state are required to locate, identify, and evaluate children with disabilities who are located within their geographical boundaries, including children who are: homeless, wards of the state, or placed in private schools.



Child Find Applies To:

- ▶ Children aged birth through 21 years
- ▶ Students who are highly mobile, such as migrant and homeless
- ▶ Children suspected of having a disability, even though they are advancing from grade to grade
- ▶ Private school students (Does not apply to charter schools.)
- ▶ Home school students (Does not apply to charter schools.)



Components of Child Find:

- ▶ Annually review written procedures with school-based staff
- ▶ Disseminate the procedures to parents
- ▶ Public awareness
- ▶ Referral
- ▶ Screening
- ▶ Tracking System to meet timelines
- ▶ Annual determinations for Private Schools and Home-Schooled (Does not apply to charter schools.)



Public Awareness Includes:

- ▶ Availability of special education services for preschool and school-aged children
- ▶ Availability of early intervention services for children birth to 2 years 10 ½ months through AZ Early Intervention Program (AzEIP)
- ▶ Annual dissemination of written procedures for the identification and referral of children with disabilities to parents.



Referral

- ▶ This varies by age



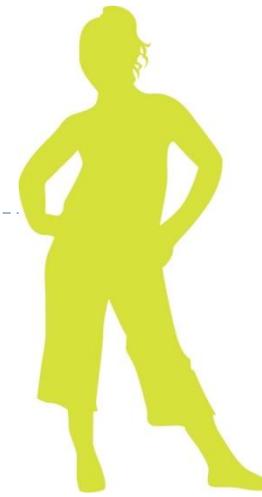
Birth-2 yrs. 10
½ months

PEA
refers to
AzEIP



2 yrs. 10 ½
months-5 yrs.

Referral is
to
parental
district of
residence

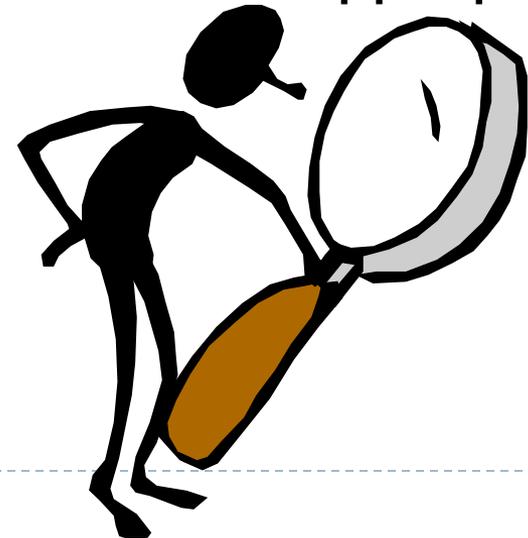


5-21 yrs

PEA
completes
referral

Screening

- ▶ An informal or formal process of determining the status of a child with respect to appropriate developmental and academic norms. Screening may include observations, family interviews, review of medical, developmental or educational records, or the administration of specific instruments identified by the test publisher as appropriate for use as a screening tool.



Screening Procedures Shall Include:

**Vision and
hearing status**

**Cognitive or
academic
development**

Communication

Motor

**Social or
behavioral
development**

**Adaptive
development**

- ▶ Screening must occur within 45 calendar days.
 - ▶ Screening **DOES NOT** include detailed individualized comprehensive evaluation procedures.
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Screening

- ▶ Screening for possible disabilities shall be completed within 45 calendar days after entry of each preschool or kindergarten student, and any student enrolling without appropriate records of screening, evaluation, and progress in school.



Timelines

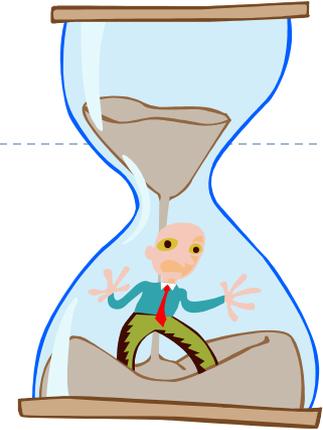
Student enters school as new student.



Within 45 CALENDAR days student must be screened.



If screening indicates areas of concern parents must be notified within 10 SCHOOL days.



District (PEA) Scenario



Mom informs local district that her 4 year old appears developmentally delayed.



AZ FIND Coordinator verifies that mom lives within their boundaries.



AZ FIND Coordinator schedules screening with mom to determine if a full evaluation is warranted and completes tracking log.



If evaluation is warranted, the district is responsible for evaluation and services if eligible.



District (PEA) Scenario



Dad informs local district that his 2 year old child is not talking.



AZ FIND Coordinator completes referral form, submits to AzEIP and logs pertinent info on tracking log.



Charter (PEA) Scenario



Parent of currently enrolled student informs teacher that her 4 year old son is extremely clumsy and seems to fall often.



Teacher informs AZ FIND Coordinator of the issue.



AZ FIND Coordinator determines parent's district of residence and completes referral to that district.



AZ FIND Coordinator logs pertinent info on tracking log and maintains referral form in file.



District and Charter (PEA) Scenario



Teacher identifies below average academic concerns on a 45 day screening.



AZ FIND Coordinator reviews 45 day screening and sends parent letter home within 10 school days, provides student information to child study team (CST), and logs info on tracking log.



CST determines if intervention plan is needed.



If intervention plan is needed CST leader disseminates plan to pertinent staff and monitors progress.



District and Charter School Scenario

A fifth grade student has had numerous office referrals, 12 days of suspension halfway through the year, and parents report they have behavioral issues with the child at home.

Teacher or administrator should notify the AZ FIND Coordinator of the concerns.

AZ FIND Coordinator will log the info into the tracking log, communicate concerns to parents, and then pass on all student info to the CST leader.

CST leader will call CST meeting and determine best course of action for student.



District and Charter School Scenario



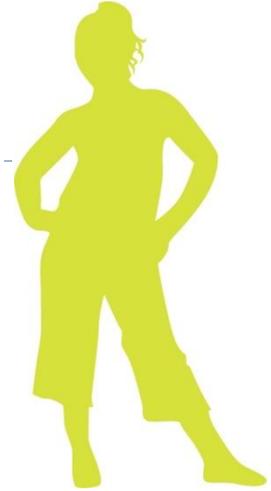
A 9th grade student has progressed from grade to grade, but has failed numerous classes along the way. Additionally, this student is performing at FFB in all areas on their most recent AIMS test.

The student's teacher has communicated with the AZ FIND Coordinator that she thinks the student should be referred.

The AZ FIND Coordinator logs the pertinent info on the tracking log, communicates the concern with parents, and provides student info to the CST leader.

CST leader will call CST meeting and determine best course of action for student.

Potential Referral Scenario



A 5th grade student has been referred to the CST and an intervention plan has been developed and implemented.



After 9 weeks of progress monitoring by the CST leader the CST meets to review progress.



The student is making progress so the CST determines that the intervention plan should be continued.



The student would not be referred for an evaluation at this point. Interventions will remain in place with frequent monitoring.



Potential Referral Scenario



A 10th grade student was referred to the CST and an intervention plan was developed and implemented.



After 9 weeks of progress monitoring by the CST leader the CST meets to review student progress.



Student has not made progress with the current intervention plan. CST determines if changes to intervention plan are needed OR refers student for comprehensive evaluation.



Please Note

- ▶ Pre-referral intervention helps to eliminate possible causes of underachievement. However, if the student fails to meet the expected learning or behavioral changes despite the targeted interventions OR the student's academic or behavior difficulties are obvious and significant; the student should be referred for an individual evaluation without undue delay.



Pertinent AZ FIND Timelines

Screenings

- 45 calendar days

Parent notification of concerns

- 10 school days
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Questions?



Relevant Citations:

- ▶ **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA '04)**
 - ▶ 34 C.F.R. 300.111 - Child Find
 - ▶ 34 C.F.R. 300.30 - Definition of Parent

- ▶ **AZ Administrative Code (A.A.C.)**
 - ▶ R7-2-401 (B)(24) - Definition of Screening
 - ▶ R7-2-401 (C) - Public Awareness
 - ▶ R7-2-401 (D) - Child Identification and Referral

