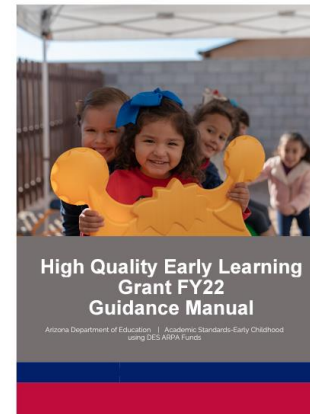




Introduction to Child Find



August 10, 2022

Early Childhood Special Education Unit



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Objectives for Participants:

- Discuss the purpose of Child Find as an important process in early childhood
- Locate federal and state Child Find requirements and regulations
- Interpret and plan for your role in Child Find
- Create a plan to respond to families who have a concern about their child





Child Find is:

Public education agencies (PEAs) have an affirmative, ongoing obligation to locate, identify, and evaluate children with disabilities.

- ✓ School districts are responsible for children located within the geographical area of its legally designated boundaries; including children who are homeless, wards of the state, or parentally placed in private schools.



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Federal regulations that implement the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) 34 CFR §§ 300.111 and 300.131; Arizona Revised Statute (A.R.S.) § 15-761(26); Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) R7-2-401(B)(3) and (16), (D)(4)

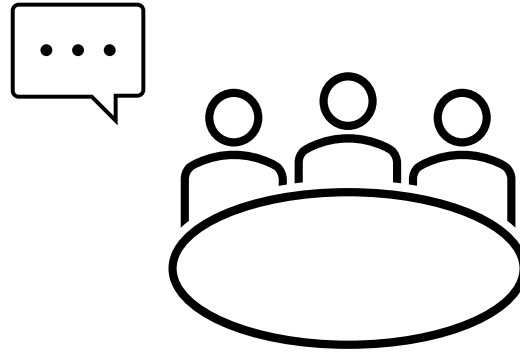


Child Find (cont.):

Applies to children who are:

- ✓ Aged three through 21 years (in Part B)
- ✓ Highly mobile, such as migrant and homeless children
- ✓ Suspected of having a disability, even though they are advancing from grade to grade
- ✓ Parentally placed in a private school (does not apply to charter schools)





List 2-3 reasons why Child Find is an important process





Review federal Child Find requirements

- ✓ School Districts must identify, locate, and evaluate children with suspected disabilities within their geographical boundaries that are 3 to 21 years of age and refer children zero to three years of age to early intervention (AzEIP)
- ✓ Child Find processes must include all children
- ✓ Each PEA will maintain a record of children who are referred, screened, and receiving special education and related services within their geographical boundaries that are 3 to 21 years of age. For children zero to three years of age, a process of tracking referrals to early intervention (AzEIP) is also maintained.
- ✓ [Child Find Policy and Procedure Checklist](#)





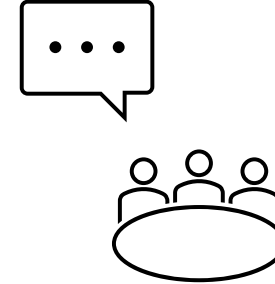
Review state Child Find requirements

Each PEA shall:

- ✓ Inform the general public and all parents within its boundaries of responsibility of the availability of special education services for students aged 3 through 21 years and how to access those services, including information regarding the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AZEIP) for children aged birth through 3 years.
- ✓ Create and implement a screening process to locate and identify those children most in need of services
- ✓ Have a referral process to AZEIP for children birth to 3 years old
- ✓ Provide training to all PEA staff of the Child Find process annually



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Activity

- Determine if your program is a public education agency (PEA) and responsible for the three parts of Child Find.
- Briefly describe your program's processes for referring children that are suspected of having a delay
- Briefly describe your program's processes for screening children that are suspected of having a delay





Interpret and plan for your Child Find role



Childcare providers will:

- ✓ Offer families information about expected development
- ✓ Know the starting point of the Child Find process and how to support families (screening and referral)
- ✓ Refer when there is a concern
- ✓ Continue to build on the public awareness components
- ✓ Help every child and family get access to the right service at the right time for the current need



Conner's Story

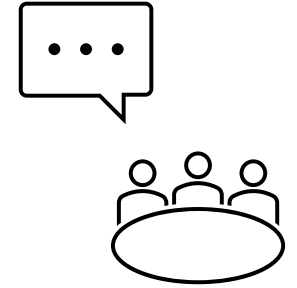




Your role in the Child Find process:

- ✓ Knowledgeable of the screening policy and procedures already in place at your program
- ✓ Developing positive relationships with your families
- ✓ Continuing your education on child development
- ✓ Ability to use the screening tools available in your program
- ✓ Locating local Child Find resources (screening, district maps)
- ✓ Learning to have difficult conversations with parents
- ✓ Identify and contact local partners in the process (school district, AZEIP)
- ✓ Obtain professional development regarding the local Child Find process





Let's make a plan, put this information into practice!

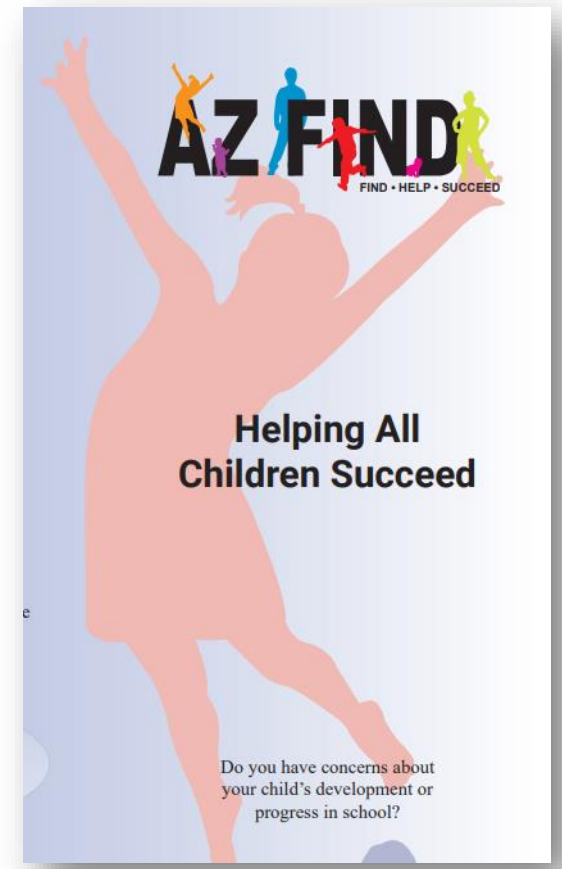
HQEL sites must do a 45-day screening on all children in the program.
What is the plan if you have a child with concerns?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	manipulating objects; shaky, stiff, or weak movements)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: _____			
Date 45-day screening was completed: _____			
Administrative Action:			
<input type="checkbox"/> No concerns <u>at this time.</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concern(s) noted. Action(s) taken:	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent(s) notified on _____	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Referred for student study team	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to appropriate program administrator	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Referred for <input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> 504 Plan	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
Teacher's Signature: _____		Administrator's Signature: _____	
<small>Revised 4/18/17</small>			





Accessing Services



Search by school name, district name, address, city or ZIP code

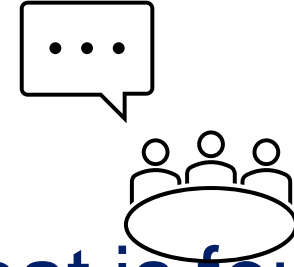
ACS-ED Maps Population Group Children Indicator Households clear EDGE NCES

Economic	Family Households
Social	Households by Age and Size
Households	
Experience	
Background	
Demographic	
Housing	

Search school, schools districts, or locations



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Activity:

A parent voices concern about a child to you that is four years old.

If you're a high school principal.....

If you're a lead preschool teacher in a high school that has a preschool classroom.....

If you're working in a private childcare program as a teacher for an infant classroom....



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Resources

- <https://www.azed.gov/>
- <https://azreportcards.azed.gov/>
- <https://www.azed.gov/specialeducation/early-childhood-special-education-child-find>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/concerned.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/childdevelopment/screening.html>
- [“Learn the Signs. Act Early!” Developmental Milestones Resources for Early Childhood Educators | CDC](#)
- <https://nces.ed.gov/programs/maped/ACSMaps/>





Contact Us

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