

Research shows that children are more successful in school when their families are involved in their development and education.

For children with disabilities, the importance of parent involvement can be even greater.

Very often, parents are the only or best source of information about their child's strengths and the impact a disability has on their child's development or learning ability. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) mandates that parents be equal members on the team that evaluates their child's abilities and creates an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Program (IEP) to meet the unique needs of their child.

The Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services monitors and supports local Infants and Toddlers Programs and local school systems to ensure compliance with IDEA and supports the full participation of families in planning early intervention and special education.

Family Support Services For Families of Children With Disabilities, Birth Through 21

Maryland has Family Support Services coordinators in each jurisdiction that assist families of children with disabilities ages birth through 21. A directory of local family support services may be found on the Web at www.mdecgateway.org. If you need further assistance or information about identifying children with disabilities, call us toll free: 1-800-535-0182.

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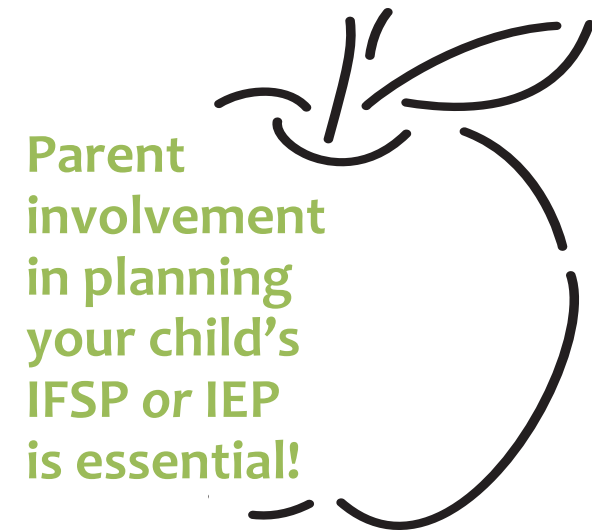
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Parent involvement in planning your child's IFSP or IEP is essential!

- Would you like to have information about early intervention or special education?
- Would you like to have support and resources to help you assist your child with a disability or delay at home or in school?

Call us! 1-800-535-0182



MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services

Maryland's Network of Family Support Services Coordinators

The Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services

maintains a network of local Family Support Services Coordinators that assist parents of children with disabilities to fully participate in planning early intervention and special education services for their child.

- **Family Support Network** coordinators for families of children ages Birth to 3 years
- **Preschool Partners** coordinators for families of children ages 3 to 5 years
- **Partners for Success** coordinators for families of children ages 3 to 21 years

Family support services coordinators are available in each Maryland jurisdiction to:

Answer questions about early intervention and special education services • Help foster connections among families • Provide resources and lend library materials • Organize parent trainings • Facilitate parent support groups • Support families in planning for transitions • Informally assist parents in resolving concerns with local early intervention systems and local school systems • Provide information about Maryland's formal process for resolving disputes with local early intervention systems and local school systems.

Family support services coordinators are excited to assist families of children with disabilities. **Call us!**

| Directory of Local Family Support Services Coordinators | | | |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| Jurisdiction | Family Support Network Ages Birth to 3 | Preschool Partners Ages 3 through 5 | Partners For Success Ages 3 to 21 |
| Allegany County | 240-920-6829 | 240-920-6829 | 240-920-6829 |
| Anne Arundel County | 443-510-4591 | 410-222-3805 | 410-222-3805 |
| Baltimore City | 410-396-1666 | 443-642-4218 | 443-642-4218 |
| Baltimore County | 410-887-2169 | 410-887-5443 | 410-887-5443 |
| Calvert County | 410-535-7387 | 410-535-7387 | 410-535-7387 |
| Caroline County | 410-479-3609 | 410-479-3609 | 410-479-3609 |
| Carroll County | 410-876-4437 | 410-751-3955 | 410-751-3955 |
| Cecil County | 410-996-5637 | 410-996-5637 | 410-996-5637 |
| Charles County | 301-934-7456 | 301-934-7456 | 301-934-7456 |
| Dorchester County | 410-901-6915 | 410-901-6915 | 410-901-6915 |
| Frederick County | 301-600-1617 | 301-600-1617 | 240-236-8744 |
| Garrett County | 301-334-8119 | 301-334-8119 | 301-533-0240 |
| Harford County | 410-638-3823 | 410-638-3823 | 410-273-5579 |
| Howard County | 410-313-7161 | 410-313-7161 | 410-313-7161 |
| Kent County | 410-778-5708 | 410-778-5708 | 410-778-5708 |
| Montgomery County | 240-777-4809 | 240-777-4809 | 301-279-3100 |
| Prince George's County | 301-883-7428 | 301-883-7428 | 301-431-5675 |
| Queen Anne's County | 410-827-4629, ext. 149 | 410-827-4629, ext. 149 | 410-758-3693 |
| Somerset County | 410-651-9413 | 410-651-9413 | 410-651-9413 |
| St. Mary's County | 301-231-4188 | 301-231-4188 | 301-863-4069 |
| Talbot County | 410-820-6904 | 410-820-6904 | 410-820-6904 |
| Washington County | 301-766-8221 | 301-766-8221 | 301-766-8221 |
| Wicomico County | 410-677-5250 | 410-677-5250 | 410-677-5250 |
| Worcester County | 410-632-5234 | 410-632-5234 | 410-632-5234 |
| Statewide Family Support Services Coordinators | | | |
| Maryland School For the Blind | | | 1-800-400-4519 ext. 489 |
| Maryland School For the Deaf | | | 443-277-8899 |
| Maryland State Department of Education Family Support Services (including dedicated support for Maryland military families and families of detained and committed youth) | | | 1-800-535-0182 |