

Information about Free Services to Support your Child's Early Development (Ages 0-3)

Every child develops at their own pace and in their own unique way. Some children may reach developmental milestones earlier, while others may take longer. If you are concerned or have questions about your child's development, speak to your child's medical provider.

One of the programs that can support your child's early development is the New York City Early Intervention Program. Here is some basic information about the Early Intervention Program in New York City and how to arrange for an evaluation for your child and if eligible, access services:

WHO: Every family with children under the age of 3 has the right to participate in this program, regardless of their income, immigration status, or insurance coverage.

WHAT: The Early Intervention Program assists children aged from birth to 3 years old who may not be developing, playing, growing, talking, or walking like other children their age. The program works very closely with families to set individual goals for their child and develop a plan of care to help them achieve these goals. The program is available in all boroughs in New York City. Services are provided in the family's home language.

WHY: The purpose of the program is to make sure that children with delays and disabilities receive early assistance to increase their chances of reaching their full potential.

HOW: If parents have concerns about their child's development, they can call 311 and ask for Early Intervention or speak to their child's medical provider. After a referral, a child will be evaluated by professionals, and the Early Intervention Program will assist in providing services if the child is eligible. All services are free and will not affect insurance coverage. Services may include speech and language and physical therapy. Families that are eligible for services will also receive assistance from a service coordinator to help navigate early intervention and other services their family may need.

WHERE: Early Intervention services can be provided anywhere the child typically spends their day, such as their home, child care centers, recreational centers, or other early childhood programs.

Scan the codes below to download typical developmental milestones from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

