



What is Early Intervention? (Tiny-K and Kansas Early Support)

Quick Overview

Early Intervention means giving **young children (birth to 3 years old)** the **support they need as soon as possible** when there are concerns about their development. In Kansas, Early Intervention services are delivered through the **Tiny-K Program** under **Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**.

Just like building a house, **the earlier you lay a strong foundation, the stronger everything on top will be**. Early Intervention helps lay that foundation by strengthening communication, movement, thinking, and social skills when they are just beginning to form.

Key Points Parents Should Know

- **Available for Ages Birth to 3:** Early Intervention supports babies and toddlers with developmental delays or diagnosed conditions.
 - **Focuses on the Family:** Services don't just work with the child — they also coach parents and caregivers to help during daily routines.
 - **Provided in Natural Environments:** Services usually happen at home, daycare, or other community settings, not in clinics.
 - **Free Evaluations:** Parents can request a free evaluation if they have any concerns about their child's development.
 - **Tiny-K Programs Across Kansas:** Kansas has local Tiny-K agencies that serve every region of the state.
 - **Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP):** If eligible, families work with a team to develop an IFSP — a custom plan for services based on the child's and family's needs.
 - **Parental Consent Is Always Required:** Services only begin if parents agree. You are part of every decision!
 - **Smooth Transition to Preschool Services:** If needed, planning for special education (Part B) begins by age 2.5 years to ensure no gaps when your child turns 3.
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 **Word Picture:** *"Think of Early Intervention like planting seeds in rich soil. With the right nurturing early on, your child's potential can blossom stronger and faster than if you waited for big problems to appear."*

How to Access Early Intervention in Kansas

- **Contact Your Local Tiny-K Program:** Each region in Kansas has a designated Tiny-K provider.
- **Find Your Program Here:** [Tiny-K Directory](#)

- **You Can Request an Evaluation Anytime:** You don't need a doctor's referral to start.
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Sources

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022). *Learn the Signs. Act Early*. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/index.html>
 - Kansas Department of Health and Environment. (2023). *Kansas Infant-Toddler Services (Tiny-K)*. Retrieved from <https://tiny-k.org/>
 - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C. (2004). Retrieved from <https://sites.ed.gov/idea/regs/c>
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Important Reminder

"This handout reflects Kansas-specific early childhood and special education guidance. Always check with your local Tiny-K provider or the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) for the most current information."