

*For Infants  
and Toddlers*

Infants and Toddlers Programs in Maryland offer services designed to support families and enhance the development of young children with developmental delays and disabilities. Services may include: audiology, physical therapy, occupational therapy, transportation, speech-language pathology, family training, special instruction, assistive technology, health services and home visits.

For more information on early intervention services, call the number listed for your county.

**Local Infants and Toddlers Programs**

<i>Allegany</i>	(301) 689-0466
<i>Anne Arundel</i>	(410) 222-6911
<i>Baltimore City</i>	(410) 396-1666
<i>Baltimore</i>	(410) 887-2169
<i>Calvert</i>	(410) 535-5400, x388
<i>Caroline</i>	(410) 479-3246
<i>Carroll</i>	(410) 876-4437, x221
<i>Cecil</i>	(410) 996-5444
<i>Charles</i>	(301) 609-6808
<i>Dorchester</i>	(410) 221-4747
<i>Frederick</i>	(301) 694-1612
<i>Garrett</i>	(301) 334-1189
<i>Harford</i>	(410) 638-3823
<i>Howard</i>	(410) 313-7017
<i>Kent</i>	(410) 778-1350
<i>Montgomery</i>	(240) 777-3997
<i>Prince George's</i>	(301) 985-3811
<i>Queen Anne's</i>	(410) 758-0720, x356
<i>Somerset</i>	(410) 651-1485
<i>St. Mary's</i>	(301) 475-4393
<i>Talbot</i>	(410) 820-0319
<i>Washington</i>	(301) 766-8217
<i>Wicomico</i>	(410) 543-6920
<i>Worcester</i>	(410) 632-2582

*Maryland State  
Department of Education*

Division of Special Education/  
Early Intervention Services  
**Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program**  
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410-333-0731 TDD  
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*the  
Earlier  
the better*

**A Guide to the  
Maryland Infants  
& Toddlers Program**

for infants and toddlers with  
developmental disabilities  
and their families

# Early intervention

Research tells us that the first three years of a child's life are the most critical time for learning. During these early years, it is important to focus on a child's developmental needs and capitalize on his or her natural ability to learn.

The *Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program* directs a family-centered system of early intervention services for young children with developmental delays and disabilities—and their families.

Services are offered throughout the State and are designed to enhance a child's potential for growth and development before he or she reaches school age.

## **Concerns About Development**

Concerns about development may cause families to worry.

- ♥ *I'm concerned that my son doesn't lift his head like he should.*
- ♥ *My daughter doesn't seem to hear or respond to people around her.*
- ♥ *I just have this feeling that something is not right.*

Although children may grow and learn at different paces, there is a usual order and timeline that most follow. If you or your health care provider have concerns about your child's development, call your Local Infants and Toddlers Program (see back panel for phone numbers).

After evaluating your child's development, Local Infants and Toddlers Program staff will determine if your child and family are eligible for *early intervention*.

## **Who is Eligible?**

Your child and family may be eligible if your child is under three years of age, and

- ♥ *has a delay of 25 percent or more in development, or*
- ♥ *is developing in a way that is considered "atypical" for most children his or her age, or*
- ♥ *has a diagnosed condition—such as a genetic disorder or severe vision impairment—that is likely to affect development.*

## **Family Support**

Families play a very important role in the early intervention system. One way the *Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program* offers support to families is through its Family Support Network.

In addition to providing information about available services, the Family Support Network links families that share similar experiences and offers specialized workshops and seminars through local Family-to-Family Support Networks.

For more information about this and other support programs, call your Local Infants and Toddlers Program (see back panel for phone numbers) or the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program.