

Transitioning from Early Intervention to Special Education

Transition means changing from one place, stage, or relationship to another. What will transition look like for families?



Age 2:

- The process of transition starts with discussions and planning steps long before the formal process begins. There will be several discussions about concerns, needs, and opportunities in preparation for the meetings and activities of transition.

Age 2 years and 3 months – 2 years and 7 months (2.7 Meeting):

- Children can transition to a variety of settings, such as community preschools, childcare settings, or early childhood special education services. Early Intervention staff and parents or guardians work together to create a plan to ensure a child's transition goes as smoothly as possible.
- The purpose of this meeting is to begin to share information between the family and the two agencies about the needs of the child.
- A transition timeline will be finalized. The child's current Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), assessments, and other relevant records will be reviewed.
- Families have the option to opt out of the special education program, this needs to occur within 10 days prior to the child turning 2 years, 5 months.

Age 2 years and 9 months (2.9 Meeting):

- At 2 years, 9 months, a meeting will be held to discuss the child's eligibility for early childhood special education services and Developmental Disabilities Program Management.
- If the child is found eligible, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting will occur/written

Age 3 years and Beyond:

- After the IEP has been written and decisions for placement have been made, the IEP will guide the way moving forward. The team will work together and make decisions keeping the child's best interests in mind. It is essential to maintain open communication with team members and to review the IEP as a group.

www.pathfinder-nd.org
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Resources: www.understood.org, www.nd.gov/dpi.

