



**Infant & Toddler
Connection of Virginia**
A Program of the Department of
Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

1-800-234-1448
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www.infantva.org



Babies learn and grow at
their own pace.
Some need a little extra help.

What is Early Intervention?

If you or your baby's doctor has any concerns about your baby's development, it is important to get extra help as early as possible. The Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia provides supports and services so that families can help their babies to learn during everyday activities and routines.

This is called early intervention.

Parents and
Professionals
Working Together
to Help Babies
Develop and Learn



What happens when someone contacts the Infant & Toddler Connection?



If you call the Infant & Toddler Connection, the person who answers the phone will ask for basic information and answer your questions. This person may set up an appointment for you and your child to meet with a service coordinator or you may get a call back to make this appointment.

If your doctor or another community person contacts the Infant & Toddler Connection, you will receive a phone call from someone who will tell you more about early intervention, ask you some questions and answer your questions. A time will be set up for a service coordinator to meet you and your child.

Who is a service coordinator?



Your service coordinator will help you understand the services available to your child and family through the Infant & Toddler Connection and other community resources. Your service coordinator will be your main point of contact and support during your time in early intervention.

How do I find out if my child can get early intervention services?

A child is eligible for early intervention if he or she is developing differently or more slowly than other children or has a health condition that will affect development. Your service coordinator will gather the information and people needed to determine if your child is eligible. Early Intervention services are available for eligible children until their 3rd birthday.

What happens next if my child is eligible?



Your service coordinator and a team of professionals will work with you to develop a plan based on your child's needs and what's important to you. You and your team will decide how everyone will work together to reach your family goals. This plan is called the Individualized Family Service Plan, or IFSP.

What can I expect from early intervention services?

Research shows that children learn best during every day activities. That's why services are provided where your child lives, learns and plays. This can be your home, child care and other places your family spends time.

Children learn best from you and the other important people in the lives. Service providers focus on helping you and your child's other caregivers understand how to help your child learn during daily routines and activities. This is called coaching, and it requires you to be an active partner with the service provider.

How much will early intervention cost?



Some services are free. These include service coordination, determining eligibility, any testing that is needed, and writing the IFSP. There are fees for some services listed on the IFSP, but your family can not be denied services because you can't afford them.

How can I connect with another family?

When you have concerns about how your baby is learning and developing, it can be helpful to talk to another parent who has been in a similar situation. The New Path parent support network will help you connect to the right people and provide individualized resources to you and your family.

For more information please call 888-604-2677.



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