

Early Childhood Special Education (Part B)

Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)

OVERVIEW
<p>Early childhood special education services for children, three through five years of age and their families, are provided through local school districts and special education cooperatives.</p>
WHO IS SERVED?
<p><i>Population(s)/Age Group:</i></p>
<p>Children ages 3-5 with diagnosed/identified disabilities are served by the program.</p>
<p><i>Eligibility Criteria and Screening Tools:</i></p>
<p>IDEA identifies 13 disabilities as the basis for students' eligibility for special education and related services. These disabilities include autism, deaf-blindness, deafness, emotional disability, hearing impairment, cognitive disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, and visual impairment. In addition, "autism" shall include, but not be limited to, any Autism Spectrum Disorder that adversely affects a child's educational performance.</p>
HOW ARE SERVICES DELIVERED?
<p><i>Local Service System:</i></p>
<p>Program services are provided through the school system.</p>
<p><i>Referrals into Program:</i></p>
<p>Each school district actively seeks out and identifies all children from birth through age 21 within the district who may be eligible for special education and related services through the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local school districts are required to conduct annual community-wide screening and ongoing individual child screening.• Ongoing review of each child's performance and progress by teachers and other professional personnel, in order to refer those children who exhibit problems which interfere with their educational progress and/or their adjustment to the educational setting, suggesting that they may be eligible for special education and related services.• Ongoing coordination with early intervention programs to identify children from birth through two years of age who have or are suspected of having disabilities, in order to ensure provision of services in accordance with applicable timelines.

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Data Systems Used:

The Student Information System (SIS) is used to collect data.

STATE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR OR CONTACT

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Program Website:
<http://www.isbe.net/earlychi/html/spec-ed.htm>