

Waupaca County Birth to 3 Early Intervention Program



**Supporting families and
promoting optimal
development for all
infants and toddlers
with disabilities or
delays in Waupaca
County**

Phone: (715) 258-6388

The mission of Waupaca County Birth to 3 Early Intervention Program is to provide, in a child's natural setting, interventions that provide families the opportunity to support their infants and toddlers growth. Families are children's best teachers, therefore, family values, priorities, and daily interactions/activities are the foundations for services.



Waupaca County Birth to 3 Early Intervention Program

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What is Birth to 3?

The Birth to 3 Early Intervention Program is a collection of services available for families with infants and toddlers ages birth to 3 years old with developmental delays or disabilities who live in Waupaca County. These voluntary services are home and community based and are designed to meet the developmental needs of each eligible child along with the needs of their family to enhance their child's development.

What services are provided through Birth to 3?

Services for each child and family are determined based on the needs of that family and child. Along with high quality individualized therapy (occupational, physical, and speech) and special education services, Waupaca County Birth to 3 Early Intervention providers coach families and caregivers on how to recognize learning opportunities which occur during natural/typical family routines. The goal is to help children achieve their full potential while helping parents and caregivers develop the confidence and competence they need to support their child.

Does my child need Birth to 3 Services?

Children reach developmental milestones at different times as each child develops at their own rate. However, some children may have difficulties in some areas of development (such as listed below) and may need B-3 services.

- Difficulty talking or understanding what is said to them (communication skills)
- Difficulty with rolling, crawling, sitting, walking, holding objects, or coloring (motor skills)
- Difficulty with feeding, toileting, or dressing (self-help skills)
- Difficulty with thinking, playing, paying attention to an activity (cognitive skills)
- Difficulty interacting or playing with other adults (personal/social skills)

If you feel your child is experiencing any of these difficulties or you have any questions, please contact our program. Our professionals will listen to your concerns and help you decide what the next step should be.

What Happens Next?

After a referral is received, you will be contacted by the B-3 Program. During an initial phone call, it will be determined if your child should receive a screening to gather more information regarding their development or if an evaluation is appropriate. An evaluation is needed to determine eligibility for the B-3 Program. Eligibility for the program will be discussed at an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) meeting. During the evaluation process and IFSP meeting, your B-3 team will meet with you to discuss your family's routines/day, your family's priorities and values, any concerns you have for your child's development, goals you have for your child, and to observe/evaluate your child in their natural setting.

How are these services funded?

The Birth to 3 Early Intervention Program is funded by: Waupaca County Department of Health and Human Services, State of Wisconsin, Federal funds, private insurance and/or medical assistance, parental contribution determined by a parental cost-share screening. Core services, such as the initial evaluation and overall service coordination, are always available at no cost to the family.

Developmental Milestones

0-6 months

- Enjoys touching toys, blankets, and objects with various textures
- Is not spitting up after/during most feedings
- Turns head when you call name
- Smiles back at you
- Responds to sounds, by cooing, gurgling, and squealing
- Sits without support for short time
- Likes social play (games like peek-a-boo)

6-12 months

- Uses simple gestures such as shaking head for "no" or waving "bye"
- Crawls
- Pulls to stand and walks while holding onto a hand or furniture.
- Cooperates in games-plays peek-a-boo and pat-a-cake
- Responds when told "no."
- Says "mama" and "dada"
- Tolerates food with more texture and various flavors
- Mouths objects
- Bangs toys in play and puts things in and out of containers.

12-18 months

- Plays pretend (talking on a phone)
- Points to a couple body parts, pictures, and interesting things
- Uses several single words to get wants met
- Walks alone
- Tolerates walking on a variety of surfaces-sand, wood chips, and grass
- Creeps up stairs
- Follows simple directions accompanied by gestures.
- Finger feeds self
- Begins to use a sippy cup, straw cup, or open cup
- Scribbles spontaneously with crayon
- Holds crayon with whole hand, thumb up
- Looks at pictures in a book

Developmental Milestones

18-24 months

- Uses between 10 and 20 words to communicate wants and needs
- Points to something (such as picture or toy) when it is named
- Follows simple commands without gestures
- Plays alongside other children
- Temper tantrums are common, can calm self within 15 minutes
- Imitates adult house work and role play with dolls or other toys
- Shows awareness of wet or soiled diaper
- Uses spoon and/or fork with some spilling
- Tolerates variety of movement-swinging, car rides, being upside down, etc.
- Walks up and down stairs with hand held
- Kicks ball

24-30 months

- Builds a tower of 8 one-inch blocks
- Completes simple puzzles
- Says at least 50 words and puts words together
- Parents should understand at least 75% of child's language
- Seeks out people to show them new things, points or brings objects to familiar people to show them
- Will play with a toy or occupy self for 10 minutes
- Walk up stairs without hand held
- Throws a ball

30-36 months

- Balances on one foot for several seconds
- Snips paper with scissors
- Draws and copies a horizontal line
- Answers "wh" questions
- Speaks in 2 to 4 word phrases
- Speech is at least 75% intelligible to unfamiliar listeners
- Dresses with some supervision
- Will join another child in play
- Participates and engages with another individual in pretend play
- Tolerates new environments and a variety of public settings

Birth to 3 Guiding Principles:

- Children's optimal development depends on their being viewed first as children and second as children with a disability.
- Children's greatest resource is their family.
- Parents are partners in any activity that services their children.
- Just as children are best supported within the context of family, the family is best supported within the context of the community.
- Professionals are most effective when they work as a team member with parents and others.
- Collaboration is the best way to provide comprehensive services.
- Early intervention enhances the development of children.

Anyone can make a referral to the Birth to 3 Early Intervention Program. If you have any concerns, please contact us at (715) 258-6388.