

Child Find's Mission Statement

The purpose of ACPS Child Find is to locate and evaluate children who are suspected of having a developmental delay or disability. If it is determined that a child's disability interferes with the his/her learning, Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) and/or other additional services may be recommended. Other services may include, but are not limited to, speech/language therapy, physical therapy or occupational therapy.



Who may refer a child?

A child may be referred to ACPS Child Find by any of the following people:

- Parent/ legal guardian
- Family member or friend
- Physician
- School personnel
- Childcare provider
- Community agency
- Infant Toddler Connection - Parent Infant Education (ITC-PIE) staff

Parent/Legal Guardian involvement is needed for further action by ACPS.



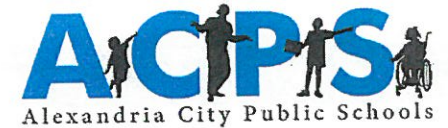
Additional resources:

- **Virginia Department of Education Early Childhood**
www.VDOE.virginia.gov/special_ed/early_childhood
- **Parent's Guide to Special Education**
Virginia Department of Education
http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/parents/parents_guide.pdf
- **Infant Toddler Connection (ITC-PIE)** (for ages 0 to 3) www.infantva.org 703-746-3350
- **ACPS School Directory** (for school age 5 to 22)
www.acps.k12.va.us/schools.php 703-619-8000

ACPS Child Find

For more information please contact:
703-578-8217
childfind@acps.k12.va.us

Child Find
and
Early Childhood Special Education Services
Jefferson-Houston School
1501 Cameron Street, Suite 235
Alexandria, VA 22314



**Child Find and
Early Childhood
Special Education Services**
Every Student Succeeds



**We can help you answer questions
about your child's development.**

ACPS Child Find offers free screenings and/or evaluations for children two years of age by September of the current school year, through five years of age who are suspected of having developmental delays, or a disability that may be impacting his or her learning or educational performance.

Referral

ACPS Child Find offers FREE screenings and/or evaluations for children two to five years of age, suspected of having a developmental delay or disability.



When should a child be referred to Child Find?

- When a child may not be meeting developmental milestones (communication, physical, thinking/reasoning, self-help, and/or personal-social)
- When parent/guardian, or someone outside the family, is not able to understand what the child is saying or the child is having difficulty communicating/speaking
- When a physical condition or medical disorder is interfering with a child's development and/or learning

NOTE: Children may exhibit some, not necessarily all, of these characteristics. Any condition that affects a child's ability to learn may be the basis for a referral. Concerns need not be limited to those listed above.

Screening

What to Expect at a Screening Appointment:

Parent/guardian discusses child's development with Child Find staff.

Child is screened in areas of development by Early Childhood Special Educators:

- Communication skills
- Reasoning/thinking skills
- Self-help/adaptive skills
- Personal-social skills
- Motor skills

Staff reviews the results with parent/guardian and discusses any next steps to support the child in his/her learning.

The following documentation is required:

- Proof of Alexandria residency (two forms)
- Child's original birth certificate
- Parent/guardian identification (driver's license or passport) or proof of legal custody or guardianship, if applicable



How to begin:

Please contact Child Find at 703-578-8217
childfind@acps.k12.va.us

The Process

Based on your child's screening results ACPS may recommend a follow up meeting to determine if further evaluations or interventions are necessary.

First Step: Child Study Meeting

- Team review of child's strengths and needs with parent present
- Determination of need for further evaluations or monitoring
- Parental consent will be required for further evaluations

Second Step: Evaluation Appointment (s)

- Evaluations are conducted for area(s) of suspected disability

Third Step: Eligibility Meeting (within 65 business days of referral)

- Team review of evaluations with parent present
- Review eligibility criteria in area of suspected disability(ies)

Fourth Step: If eligible, Individualized Education Program Meeting (within 30 calendar days of eligibility)

- Team review of student's strengths and needs with parent present
- Review annual goals developed by IEP team
- Review services
- Parent consent will be required to implement services