The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

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Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Formula grants to states to implement a comprehensive, coordinated, statewide system that provides early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities or at risk for disabilities from birth through age 2 and their families.
Child Find under Part C of the IDEA

IDEA requires Part C systems to have a “comprehensive child find system” (34CFR§§ 303.302):

- **To identify, locate and evaluate** all infants and toddlers with disabilities birth through age 2 as early as possible
- The lead agency in the State must have a **coordinated system** with major efforts to locate and identify young children by other State agencies and programs. This system should:
  - Have a **definition of eligibility** and standards for appropriately identifying infants and toddlers with disabilities
  - Include pre-referral procedures, a public awareness program, a central directory, referral procedures, participation by primary referral sources, and post-referral procedures including screenings, evaluations, assessments and timelines.
  - Target **primary referral sources**
Eligibility for Part C of the IDEA

Each state must establish the criteria for eligibility. All states must include the following two categories in their eligibility criteria:

- Is experiencing a developmental delay, as measured by appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures, in one or more of the following areas:
  - a. Cognitive development;
  - b. Physical development, including vision and hearing;
  - c. Communication development;
  - d. Social or emotional development;
  - e. Adaptive development; or
- Has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay.

“at-risk” infants and toddlers | This term refers to infants and toddlers who are considered to be at risk of having a developmental delay, if not provided with early intervention services, because of conditions such as low birth weight, respiratory distress as a newborn, lack of oxygen, brain hemorrhage, infection, or a history of abuse or neglect. States have the option of choosing to serve at-risk infants and toddlers, but most do not.

The following States include children “at-risk” of developmental delays as part of their Part C eligibility criteria: CA, FL, GU, MA, NH, NM, WV
Part B, Section 619 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

The Preschool Grants program provides formula grants to states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico to make available special education and related services for children with disabilities aged 3 through 5.
Eligibility for Part B, Section 619 Early Childhood Special Education

- Intellectual disability
- Hearing impairment (including deafness)
- Speech or language impairments
- Visual impairments (including blindness)
- Serious emotional disturbance
- Autism
- Orthopedic impairments
- Traumatic brain injury
- Other health impairments
- Specific learning disability
- Multiple disabilities
- Deaf-blindness
- Developmental delay

Who, by reason thereof, needs special education and related services.
Applies from ages 3 to 21 (except for developmental delay)
Featured

- Part C Fiscal 101 Modules: Federal Fiscal Requirements
- Practice Improvement Tools: using the DEC Recommended Practices
- Analysis Steps Used to Generate National Estimates for Progress Categories, Summary Statements, and Results FFY2016
- IDEA Child Outcomes Highlights for FFY2016 and IDEA Part C Early Intervention Family Survey Data for FFY2016 are available!

Upcoming Events

- October 9: National Child Outcomes Results Webinar
- October 23-26: DEC's 34th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and their Families - Orlando, Florida
- October 30: National Family Outcomes Results Webinar

News

- Latest eNotes: October 12, 2018
  Responding to Natural Disasters
- Tweets by @ECTACenter

ECTA Center eNotes for October 12, 2018 are available: ectacenter.org/enotes/enotes_

http://ectacenter.org/
Thank You!

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