



A Side by Side View of the New York City Early Intervention Program (EIP) and
The Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) Programs for Children with Disabilities for Parents (7/14)

| | Early Intervention (EIP) | Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) |
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| How do I refer my child? | Call 311 and ask for Early Intervention | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Send a letter to the CPSE in your District; or ➤ Ask your child’s EI Service Coordinator for help with making a referral; or ➤ Contact your local Early Childhood Direction Center for help with making a referral. |
| What agency is responsible for the program in NYC? | NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH) | NYC Department of Education (NYC DOE) |
| Is there an age requirement for the program? | Yes. Children are eligible from birth to 3 years old. | Yes. Children are eligible from 3 years to 5 years old. However, children can start as early as 2 years 9 months old if they are found eligible. |
| What is the goal of the program? | Helping parents improve their children’s development using the family’s everyday routines, activities and relationships. | Providing educational and related services to support your child’s education. |
| Will I have a Service Coordinator? | <p>Yes. There are two types of service coordinators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>Initial assistance</u>: The EIP assigns you an Initial Service Coordinator when your child is referred. They help you with all the steps necessary to get services. This includes the evaluation to find out if your child is eligible for the Program and developing a family service plan (IFSP) if your child is eligible for the Program. ➤ <u>Ongoing assistance</u>: You choose an Ongoing Service Coordinator at your IFSP meeting. Their job is to make sure that your child gets the services in the IFSP, help you find any resources that you need outside of the EIP, and help you as you leave (transition out of) the EIP. | <p>No. CPSE does not use service coordinators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>Initial assistance</u>: The CPSE office will send you a packet explaining CPSE, and the steps you need to take. You will then choose an evaluation site from those listed in the packet. This site will schedule a meeting to explain your due process rights and obtain a signed consent to do the evaluations. ➤ <u>Ongoing assistance</u>: The CPSE may assign one of your child’s service providers to coordinate all of your child’s services. |
| Who determines eligibility? | Eligibility is determined by the team of therapists that evaluate your child. | Eligibility is determined at the Individual Education Program (IEP) Meeting |
| What will my child’s evaluation look like? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ You will select an evaluation agency at your first meeting with your Initial Service Coordinator. The evaluation agency will contact you to set up an appointment. ➤ A team of at least two evaluators from different disciplines will evaluate your child. ➤ You will be an important part of your child’s evaluation. You will be asked about your family’s concerns, priorities and resources related to your child’s development. ➤ Your child’s evaluation will include: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ You will choose an evaluation site from a list of approved evaluation sites listed in the packet you will receive. You will then call the evaluation site to make an appointment. ➤ A team of evaluators from different disciplines will evaluate your child. ➤ You will continue to be an important part of your child’s evaluation. During the evaluation process, you will be asked to share information about your child’s development. ➤ Your child’s evaluation will include: |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluations of all areas of your child’s development as defined by NYS regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ <i>Cognitive</i>: Thinking, problem solving, attention and learning style. ✓ <i>Speech/language</i>: Understanding, and talking. ✓ <i>Adaptive</i>: Self-help skills like eating, dressing, and sleeping. ✓ <i>Social/emotional</i>: Interacting with parents and children, and coping skills. ✓ <i>Physical</i>: Gross motor: sitting and walking Fine motor: grasping, coloring, and cutting and sensory processing. Review of medical information (your pediatrician can complete a medical form). • Assessment of transportation needs. • With your family’s permission, an assessment of your family’s goals and resources. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All areas of your child’s development will be evaluated to identify developmental disabilities that may impact your child’s education performance, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ <i>Cognitive</i> ✓ <i>Speech/language</i> ✓ <i>Adaptive</i> ✓ <i>Social/emotional</i> ✓ <i>Physical</i> • A psychological evaluation which includes assessments of cognitive, social/emotional, and adaptive functioning capacity. • A social history is completed with the parents to assess family perceptions, history, medical, and or physical issues that may be impacting the child’s current overall functioning • Observation of your child at home, day care or preschool. • Other evaluations/assessments when needed. • With your permission, a review of your child’s EIP records. |
| Will my child be classified? | ➤ Yes. Children are classified based on medical diagnoses or developmental delay (such as speech delay, motor delay, etc.) | ➤ Yes. All eligible children are classified as: Preschool Student with a Disability. |
| How will services be authorized? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Services are determined at the IFSP meeting. ➤ A written plan is developed by the IFSP team, which includes the parent, Early Intervention Official Designee (EIOD), service coordinator, evaluation representative, and other participants invited by the parent. ➤ Parent(s) must consent for services to start. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Programs and services are determined at the IEP meeting. ➤ A written plan is developed by the parent, CPSE Administrator, and anyone else that the parent invites to come to the meeting. ➤ Parent(s) must consent for services to start. |
| Will I have to go to service planning meetings? | ➤ Parent(s) must be present at all IFSP meetings. | ➤ Parent(s) will be invited, and are encouraged to come to all IEP meetings. However, parents do not have to be present at the IEP meeting. |
| Where are services provided? | ➤ Services are delivered in natural environments such as your home, or in places like daycare where there are other children without disabilities. | ➤ CPSE must consider services in the Least Restrictive Environment. This would be where children your child’s age without disabilities are usually found, before the child is considered for a setting with only preschoolers with disabilities. |
| When are services available? | ➤ Services must be available year-round. | <p>Services must be available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 180 days during the ten-month school year; and ➤ At least 30 days during July and August (if the CPSE recommends that your child receive services year-round). |
| How are timeframes calculated? | In the EIP, “days” means calendar days. Weekends and holidays (except legal holidays) are counted as part of the time requirements. | In CPSE, both school days and calendar days are used. “School days” means that weekends and school holidays are not counted towards time requirements. |