
BENTONVILLE SCHOOLS

CHILD FIND

— Individuals with Disabilities —
Education Act
IDEA

Private Agencies

Private/Parochial Schools

Children's Shelter

Pre-Schools

Pre-K Programs

Juvenile Detention Facility

Benton County Jail

Early Intervention Programs

Education Service Cooperative

Advocacy/Parent Mentor

WHAT IS CHILD FIND?

Child Find is a component of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) that requires states to identify, locate, and evaluate all children with disabilities aged birth through 21, who are in need of early interventions or special education services.

Child Find is an ongoing cooperative effort that involves state and local education agencies, parents, the community, professionals, related organizations, and private schools.

IDEA requires all states to have a “comprehensive Child Find system” to assure that all children who are in need of early intervention or special education services are located, identified, and referred.

WHAT IS CHILD FIND?

Schools are required to implement Child Find procedures to ensure the identification of children with disabilities, ages birth through 21, receive a free appropriate public education.

- ▶ children who attend *private schools and public schools,*
- ▶ *highly mobile children, migrant children, homeless children*
- ▶ *children who are homeschooled*
- ▶ *children who are constituents of the state.*

Bentonville Schools Child Find through Special Education Services

Public Agencies must fulfill state and Federal and State Child Find requirements through locating and identifying all children and youth in the state from birth to 21 years of age who are in need of early intervention or special education and related services. Child Find is an ongoing cooperative effort that must involve state and local education agencies, parents, the community, professionals, related organizations, and private schools.

Arkansas Department of Education

<http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/learning-services/special-education/policy-regulations/child-find>

Consultation

LEAs are required to consult with both private school representatives and parent representatives of parentally placed private school children with disabilities.

- ▶ how the process will operate
- ▶ ensure meaningful participation
- ▶ How, where, and by whom special education and related services will be provided

SERVICES TO ASSIST INFANTS, TODDLERS, & THEIR FAMILIES

- ▶ **FIRST CONNECTIONS PROGRAM**
 - ▶ Statewide system of services
 - ▶ Work with families on an individualized basis
 - ▶ Assist in locating and coordinating services and assistance for both the child and the family

SERVICES TO ASSIST INFANTS, TODDLERS, & THEIR FAMILIES

- ▶ **WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM?**
 - ▶ children ages birth through thirty-six months who:
 - ▶ Have a developmental delay in one or more areas of development. The delay must be 25% or more of their chronological age. OR
 - ▶ Have a medical diagnosis that has an elevated probability resulting in a developmental delay

SERVICES TO ASSIST INFANTS, TODDLERS, & THEIR FAMILIES

- ▶ **HOW DOES FIRST CONNECTIONS HELP?**
 - ▶ Locates, coordinates, and funds a collection of services:
 - ▶ Assistive Technology, Health Services, Medical Diagnostic Services, Speech Therapy, Social Work, Psychological Services, Physical Therapy, Nutritional, Nursing Services, Occupational Therapy, Transportation, Audiological, Special Instruction, Vision Services, Family Training, Counseling and Home Visits, Service Coordination, Respite, Multidisciplinary Evaluation

SERVICES TO ASSIST EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

- ▶ **EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES**
 - ▶ System of services to assist children ages 3 through 5 and their families
 - ▶ Work with families on an individualized basis

SERVICES TO ASSIST EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

- ▶ **WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE EC PROGRAM?**
 - ▶ Children ages 3 through 5 who:
 - ▶ Have a developmental delay in one or more areas of development. This delay must be 25% or more of their chronological age. OR
 - ▶ Have a medical diagnosis that has a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay.

SERVICES TO ASSIST EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

- ▶ **WHAT CAN THE EC PROGRAM DO TO HELP?**
 - ▶ The program helps locate, coordinate, and fund a spectrum of services including:
 - ▶ Assistive Technology, Speech Therapy, Social Work, Psychological Services, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Special Instruction

SERVICES TO ASSIST SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

▶ SCHOOL AGE SERVICES

- ▶ System of services to assist children ages 5 through 21
- ▶ Work with families on an individualized basis

SERVICES TO ASSIST SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

- ▶ **WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR SERVICES?**
 - ▶ Children ages 5 through 21 who:
 - ▶ Are experiencing delays in one or more of the following areas:
 - ▶ *physical development, including vision and hearing
 - ▶ *cognitive development
 - ▶ *communication development
 - ▶ *social and emotional development or
 - ▶ *adaptive development, and
 - ▶ Have been diagnosed with physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in specific delays.

Referral for Evaluation

https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1poDqErnxkdmjOhtpA97n_BkvHqX62ShN

SERVICES TO ASSIST SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

- ▶ **WHAT CAN THE PROGRAM DO TO HELP?**
 - ▶ The program helps locate, coordinate, and fund numerous services:
 - ▶ Assistive Technology, Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Psychological Services, Social Work, Transportation, Special Instruction

A CHILD WITH A DISABILITY IS A CHILD WHO IS EVALUATED AS HAVING:

- ▶ Intellectual Disability
- ▶ Speech/Language Impairment
- ▶ Specific Learning Disability
- ▶ Hearing Impairment
- ▶ Deafness
- ▶ Visual Impairment/ Blindness
- ▶ Deaf/Blindness
- ▶ Orthopedic Impairment
- ▶ Emotional Disturbance
- ▶ Autism
- ▶ Traumatic Brain Injury
- ▶ Multiple Disabilities
- ▶ Other Health Impairment

SUCCESSFUL CHILD FIND EFFORTS:

- ▶ Maintain interagency involvement and collaboration
- ▶ Meet the needs of the community
- ▶ Are year-round
- ▶ Try to screen the masses and make referrals based on results
- ▶ Uphold family privacy
- ▶ Implement effective ways of communicating with professionals and the public at large

CHILD FIND ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Brochures/Posters in Public Places: Dr.'s Offices, Clinics, Schools, etc.
- ▶ Public Service Announcements
- ▶ Newspaper Articles
- ▶ Group Presentations
- ▶ Letters
- ▶ Written Notices Sent Home From Schools

Child Find Plan and Documentation

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QV5nOKF34YJipHGOCz9CJavF-Q7Z
WEcUSMDCGiiES3k/edit#gid=423849561](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QV5nOKF34YJipHGOCz9CJavF-Q7ZWEcUSMDCGiiES3k/edit#gid=423849561)

SUMMARY

The LEA with jurisdiction over the District in which the private school is located to be the responsible agency (Bentonville Schools) for implementing IDEA requirements for parentally placed children with disabilities. This includes the obligation that the LEA locate, identify, and evaluate children with disabilities enrolled by their parents in private, including religious, elementary and secondary schools located in the Bentonville Schools jurisdiction.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1pKhT8Jpl6lnTkkEoXt1EmwRksdb6Bwv3dCrrugdeaD/edit#gid=0>

SUMMARY

- Referrals/consultation request for Special Education Services for Private/Homeschool students may be made to the District's Special Services Department at 479-254-5065 (front desk).
- Each Private/Parochial/Homeschool Student has a Coordinator that serves as the District Contact person.

SPEECH/OT/PT Child Find Procedures

- If a child find request involves ST/OT/PT :
 - child find protocol will follow district protocol
 - parent permission to screen will be obtained
 - screening will be performed; screening report written
 - if failed; referral for full evaluation will be requested
 - if passed; child find responsibility for the area screened is complete and no further evaluation is required

Guidelines for Private School Children with Disabilities Provided by Bentonville Schools

Sec. 300.454 No Private School child with a disability has an individual right to receive some or all of the special education and related services that the child would receive if enrolled in a Public School.

Bentonville Schools will provide speech therapy to private school children with disabilities. Students meeting the criteria for Speech Language Impaired may receive the services.

Guidelines for Private School Children with Disabilities Provided by Bentonville Schools

The Services will be provided on the Bentonville Schools' campus at a agreed upon time between parent and treating therapist for one day per week for the allotted service minutes of the IEP.

Parentally placed private school children with disabilities who receive special education services by the Bentonville Schools will have a service plan that describes the specific special education and related services that the public school will provide.

Take Aways

- **Bentonville Schools is available to Private/Parochial/Home School for Consultation**
- **Know your assigned District Child Find Consultants , ie. elementary, middle, Junior, and High School (Coordinator)**
- **Bentonville Schools provides Speech Therapy to qualifying students**
- **Bentonville Schools stands ready to provide services to qualifying students in zoned facilities.**
- **Due Process procedures, ie. timelines are the same in Private/Parochial/Home Schools**

CONTACT INFORMATION

- ▶ Bentonville Schools Special Services
School Age 5-21
479-254-5065
- ▶ Northwest AR Education Service Cooperative
Early Childhood Ages 3-5
479-267-7450
- ▶ First Connections: Birth to 3
Artie Herndon 479-527-9145

