

Early Intervention Parent
Leadership Project—EIPLP

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Transition during COVID 19

Turning three (3) and transitioning from Early Intervention (EI) to Early Childhood Special Education during COVID 19 has its challenges but it can be done with planning, collaboration, participation, and creativity. Here are a few ideas to consider:

- ♦ Early Intervention transition planning conferences can be held virtually and the local school district should participate. You may want to write down the names of the people who participate.
- ♦ Local school districts are open and accepting referrals from Early Intervention.
- ♦ Parents should feel free to call their local school district if they haven't heard anything from the district and your child's 3rd birthday is approaching. Call the Special Education office or Early Childhood Coordinator.
- ♦ Local school districts can review and use relevant and recent Early Intervention assessments when determining eligibility for special education; they can also conduct their own assessments to determine eligibility.
- ♦ Early Intervention programs may continue working *on transition activities* with a family through the transition process.
- ♦ The Individual Education Program (IEP) Team, which includes your family, may decide to use the IFSP for the first year of special education services.
- ♦ Eligible children should have an IEP developed, signed by the parent and returned to the district, and be receiving services from their school district (much like telehealth visits in EI) on the child's third birthday.
- ♦ Local school districts can look into contracting with EI programs to implement the IEP/IFSP until schools are back in session.
- ♦ If you have any concerns regarding the transition process, please speak with your service coordinator or your local school district. If you need further information you are encouraged to contact the Problem Resolution Systems Office, at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, at 781-338-3700.

Family TIES* and the Early Intervention Parent Leadership Project (EIPLP) collaborated to develop this list of strategies as children turn three (3) and transition from Early Intervention (EI) to Early Childhood Special Education. Questions? You can reach Family TIES at 800-905-8437 and EIPLP at eiplp@live.com. We're here to help!

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