

SCIOTO COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

POLICY 5.03 EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

I. Introduction

The Scioto County Board of DD will provide early childhood programs that are designed to meet the developmental needs of eligible infants and children birth up to age six and their families. Early childhood programs shall be divided into the following two levels:

- A. Early Intervention
- B. Extended Early Childhood Development

II. Early Childhood Services

All County Board Early Childhood Services are:

- A. Coordinated with families and other community agencies so that services are flexible, accessible, and built upon family strengths and wishes;
- B. Family-centered, community-based, and responsive to the interests, priorities and needs of the family, and provided in natural environments using everyday routines and activities
- C. Culturally sensitive to the diversity in beliefs, values, and family structures;
- D. Empowering for families and individual family members so that they may assist their child and coordinate their needed services;
- E. Organized upon a framework of family and caregiver involvement education, and support, interdisciplinary assessment, holistic needs, individualized service plans, follow-along, service coordination, outcome-based program evaluation, procedural safeguards, and a comprehensive system of personnel development;
- F. Prevention-oriented to reflect efforts to prevent the further development of disabilities, and include participation in collaborative prevention efforts;
- G. Future-oriented to reflect transition toward the next environment, including linking with agencies serving preschool children;
- H. Available on a year round basis, for a minimum of 240 days annually; and

SCIOTO COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

- I. Provided at no cost to families and be preceded by informed written consent of the parent/guardian.
- III. Early Intervention
 - A. County Board Early Intervention Services are:
 - 1. Developmental services selected in collaboration with the parents of an infant or toddler, ages birth through two, who is eligible for services under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) 20 USC 1431 and 34 CFR Part 202, in effect on the date of this policy and as amended thereafter and rules promulgated by the Ohio Department of DD;
 - 2. Based on an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) developed by a multi-disciplinary team which shall include the parent/guardian/caregiver and have outcomes for the children and families that promote engagement, independence and full community participation;
 - 3. Part of the county's comprehensive, coordinated, transdisciplinary, interagency system for early intervention services and supports and a partner in the local "Help Me Grow" network;
 - 4. Assure procedural safeguards required by Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 USC 1431 through 1445, as in effect on the effective date of this policy, 34 CFR Part 303, Subpart E, as in effect on the effective date of this policy, and rules promulgated by the Ohio Departments of Health and/or DD; and
 - 5. Required to generate and maintain documentation set forth in the OAC for the date of initial referral, eligibility, and services provided.
 - B. Early Intervention Eligibility is limited to children:
 - 1. Birth to age three, and
 - 2. Demonstrating one or more developmental delay(s) (A developmental delay being defined as at least a 25% deficit in any one area.) in any of the following areas, as measured by an appropriate evidence-based developmental evaluation tool and informed clinical opinion as defined by the lead agency:

SCIOTO COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

- a. Cognitive development
 - b. Physical (gross, fine motor and sensory) development
 - c. Communication development
 - d. Social or emotional development, or
 - e. Adaptive development (self-help)
3. Have already been determined eligible by the local Help Me Grow program, in accordance with Part C of the IDEA, 20 USC 1431 and 34 CFR Part 202, as in effect on the date of eligibility and as amended thereafter.

IV. Extended Early Childhood Development

- A. This program provides developmental and follow-along services to families and children that are not available from any other service agency, including any local educational agency.
- B. Enrollment is determined on a case-by-case basis
- C. Continuation of services is dependent upon the consent and active participation of the child's family and/or caregivers
- D. Eligibility is limited to children:
 1. Age three up to six years;
 2. Experiencing two developmental delays or disabilities eligible for services under Part C of the IDEA, 20 USC 1431 and 34 CFR Part 202, as in effect on the date this policy and as amended thereafter, or an evaluation completed by or for a school district.
 3. Whose disabilities are not attributed solely to mental illness as defined by ORC 5122.01.