

The Process



Children Birth to Age 3

SCPS Infants and Toddlers Program is a countywide system of coordinated, interagency and multidisciplinary early intervention services. Parents, medical personnel, child care provider, hospital staff, or other concerned individuals may make a referral. Evaluations are completed to determine if the child is eligible for early intervention services.

Children Ages 3-5

The Preschool Child Find Team is an interdisciplinary team that provides identification services to children from three to five years of age who may have a disability. Parents, medical personnel, or other concerned individuals may make a referral. If the IEP team suspects that the child has a disability after reviewing all screening information, assessments in all areas related to the suspected disability are recommended. Upon written parental approval, the recommended assessments are conducted by the school-based staff and reviewed by the IEP team at an IEP team meeting. For those children determined eligible for services, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) is developed. The IEP team reviews the IEP, identifies services needed to implement the IEP, and considers options for the provision of services in the least restrictive environment.

School-Age Students (Grades K-12)

A student who is suspected of having a disability is referred to the IEP team. The IEP team meets to review the referral and existing data, information from the parent, previously implemented instructional interventions and strategies, current classroom-based assessments/curriculum measures and observations. Based on this information, the IEP team shall determine the need for assessment. If assessments are recommended, the school staff obtains written parental permission and the recommended assessments are conducted by the school-based staff and reviewed by the IEP team at an IEP team meeting. For those children eligible for services, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) is developed. The IEP team reviews the IEP, identifies services needed to implement the IEP, and considers options for the provision of services in the least restrictive environment. Note: If a parent has an educational concern and/or believes their child may have a disability, please contact your schools administrator. **Private/Parochial:** If there is a concern or belief that a school-age child who attends a private or religiously affiliated school in Somerset County may have a disability, contact the administration of your neighborhood school. **Service Continuum:** The Somerset County School System provides a continuum of services ranging from consultation and general education programming to self-contained classes, regional

programs and separate private (approved nonpublic) school placements. Each elementary, middle, and high school in Somerset County provides special education and related services for students who are identified as eligible for services.

Indirect/Consultation

- Provide the general educator with guidance from the special education teacher and related service providers on appropriate strategies for instruction, behavior management, data collection, observation, and feedback in the general education setting.
- Facilitate service delivery through ongoing communication between general and special educators and related service providers.
- Assistance in completing functional behavioral assessment (FBA) and developing a behavioral intervention plan (BIP) to address areas of concern.