Early Childhood Screening

The early childhood years from birth to the start of kindergarten are an important time of rapid learning and growth. Early Childhood Screening is a quick and simple check of how your child is growing and developing. Between the ages of 3 and 4, screening can detect possible health or learning concerns, so that children can get help before they start school.

Should I wait until my child is in kindergarten?

No, earlier is better! Waiting until a child is in school may be waiting too long. If your child is between the ages of 3 and 4, call your school district to ask about Early Childhood Screening*.

*A health and developmental Screening from Head Start, Child and Teen Checkups or your health care provider may meet the school requirements.

Does my child need an Early Childhood Screening?

All of the information from your child’s Early Childhood Screening is important to his/her future school success. After the screening, you will know how your child is growing, developing and learning.

In order for your child to start kindergarten in any Minnesota public school, you will need to provide your child’s Early Childhood Screening Summary Form and Immunization Record.

At your child’s screening, a trained professional will check**

- Vision
- Hearing
- Height & Weight
- Immunization (shots) status
- Large & Small Muscles
- Thinking, Language, & Communication Skills
- Social & Emotional Development

** Some school districts may offer other screening components, including dental and nutrition reviews.

Is there a charge?

Early Childhood Screening is FREE!

Use this card to prepare for your child’s Early Childhood Screening appointment.

Ready...Set...Grow!

Minnesota Department of Education
http://education.state.mn.us
How Can I prepare for My Child’s Screening?

Record your observations about your child’s growth and development and include any questions or concerns.

Things that my child does well:

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

QUESTIONS
I have about my child’s health:

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

I have about my child’s development:
(ex. Learning, walking or talking)

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________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________

QUESTIONS
I have about my child’s seeing or hearing:

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________________________________________________________

Other questions I have:

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________________________________________________________

Where is the nearest Early Childhood Screening location?
Contact your local school district at:

Or find the nearest screening location by visiting: MNParentsKnow.info and search “Find a Program.”

Can’t find the information you need? Call 651-582-8412

What other information is needed?

Bring information about your child’s health care provider, pediatrician and clinic/hospital name and phone.

Be sure to bring your child’s Immunization Record (vaccinations and shots) to the Early Childhood Screening appointment.

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