

Supporting families
in the growth and
development of infants
and toddlers with
special needs

Florida's Early Steps is a partnership with providers and families to deliver services that support children's well-being and development where they live, learn and play.

Starting interventions early puts children on the right path to learn and develop at their fullest potential. If you have a child or know of a child who may need Early Steps services, call toll-free at 1-800-654-4440 (voice or TDD).



Early Steps,
Children's Medical
Services

4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A06
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1707

For more state and local
information, visit our website:
<http://www.cms-kids.com>



early steps

Florida's Early Intervention System

1-800-654-4440

early steps
Children's Medical Services

HEALTH

early steps

Every child grows at an individual pace, but research shows that a child's first three years are the most important time for learning. Early Steps offers early intervention services to infants and toddlers (birth to 36 months) with a disability or significant delays. "Early Intervention" refers to services for infants and toddlers that are designed to identify and treat a problem or delay as early as possible.

Early Steps provides families with services to enhance their child's development so they are ready to learn when they enter school. There is no charge for Early Steps services, or they will be covered by insurance or Medicaid if applicable. Early Steps services are provided by contracted local Early Steps offices across the state. Our local Early Steps offices coordinate with community agencies and other providers for the delivery of needed supports and services.

A thorough assessment will be made of an eligible child's skills and abilities. Then an Individualized Family Support Plan (IFSP) is designed just for their family with expected goals based on the child's individual development. The child's IFSP determines needed early intervention services.

Early Steps is a family-centered early intervention system that serves infants and toddlers who are:

- birth to 36 months, regardless of their family's income;
- and have significant delays or an established condition that may result in a delay.

To be enrolled in Early Steps, children must first be found eligible through a screening process.

