

**At 1 ½ years (18 months), many children**

- Play simple pretend, such as feeding a doll
- Point to show others something interesting
- Show a full range of emotions, such as happy, sad, angry
- Say several single words

**At 2 years (24 months), many children**

- Say sentences with 2 to 4 words
- Follow simple instructions
- Get excited when with other children
- Point to things or pictures when they are named

**At 3 years (36 months), many children**

- Show affection for friends without prompting
- Carry on a conversation using 2 to 3 sentences
- Copy adults and friends
- Play make-believe with dolls, animals, and people

From: Milestones Card  
“It’s time to change how we view a child’s growth”  
[cdc.gov/actearly](https://cdc.gov/actearly)

## WHERE TO FIND US

Services are available on all islands and at no cost to families. Please call the Early Intervention Referral Line if there are any concerns about your child’s development.

**O’ahu** 808.594.0066  
**Neighbor Islands (toll-free)** 1.800.235.5477  
TTY is available

**Hours:** Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
After hours, please leave a message and your call will be returned.

For children over 3 years of age, call the Department of Education at 1.800.297.2070



**Hawai’i State Department of Health  
Early Intervention Section  
Kamāmalu Building**  
1010 Richards Street, Suite 811  
Honolulu, Hawai’i 96813



**808.594.0000**  
[health.hawaii.gov/eis](https://health.hawaii.gov/eis)



# Early Intervention

Services for children with special needs from birth to 3 years of age



## WHAT MANY CHILDREN CAN DO

As children grow, they learn new things. If you have any concerns about how a child is learning and developing, call the Early Intervention Referral Line.

**At 6 months, many children**

- Respond to own name
- Respond to other people’s emotions and often seems happy
- Copy sounds
- Like to play with others, especially parents

**At 1 year (12 months), many children**

- Use simple gestures, like shaking head “no” or waving “bye-bye”
- Say “mama” and “dada” and exclamation like “uh-oh!”
- Copy gestures
- Respond to simple spoken requests





## CARE COORDINATION

Once referred, a family will have a care coordinator. The care coordinator will help the family through the early intervention process.

If a child is eligible, the child receives services based on an Individualized Family Support Plan (IFSP). This plan is created by a team that includes the family and care coordinator.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

**A child is eligible for service if they:**

- Have a delay in development; or
- Have a high probability of developing a delay.

Having a delay means that a child’s development may be slower than expected. This is determined through a developmental evaluation.

Having a high probability for a delay means that a child has a condition (such as cerebral palsy or Down syndrome) that may result in developmental delay.

## WHAT DO WE DO?

The Early Intervention Programs provide services for children birth to 3 years of age with special needs and their families. Specialists support parents in helping their child develop in the following areas:

### COMMUNICATION

- Talking
- Understanding

### COGNITIVE

- Paying attention
- Solving problems

### ADAPTIVE

- Eating
- Dressing self

### SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL

- Playing with others
- Having confidence

### PHYSICAL

- Sitting
- Walking
- Picking up small objects



## SOME SERVICES WE PROVIDE

Services are provided in places where a child lives, learns, and grows.

**Services include:**

- Assistive Technology
- Audiology
- Care Coordination
- Family Training, Counseling and Home Visits
- Nursing
- Nutrition
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Psychology Services
- Sign Language and Cued Speech
- Social Work
- Special Instruction
- Speech-Language Pathology
- Vision Services

Parents and/or caregivers are “coached” on how to help their child learn and grow.

The Hawai’i State Department of Health provides access to activities without regard to race, color, national origin (including language), age, sex, religion, or disability. Write our Affirmative Action Officer at Box 3378, Honolulu, HI 96801-3378, or call 808• 586• 4616 (voice/TTY) within 180 days of a problem.