

Guiding Principles of the Birth to 3 Program

- Children's optimal development depends on their being viewed first as children and second as children with a disability.
- Children's greatest resource is their family.
- Parents are partners in any activity that serve their children.
- Just as children are best supported within the context of the family, the family is best supported within the context of the community.
- Professionals are most effective when they can work as a team member with parents and others.
- Collaboration is the best way to provide comprehensive services.
- Early intervention enhances the development of children.

Birth to 3 Program services are provided at low cost or no cost to your family. For more information contact your Shawano County early intervention team to discuss your questions or set up an appointment.



To inquire about the Birth to 3 Program please call the Department of Human Services as below or speak to your child's physician

Contact Us

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www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/birthto3/index.htm

Shawano County



BIRTH TO 3

Program

Early Intervention
services for infants and toddlers with
developmental delays or disabilities and
their families

Shawano County

Department of Human Services

Lakeland Center

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Shawano, WI 54166

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What is the Birth to 3 Program?

The Birth to 3 Program offers information, evaluation, services and supports to families whose children have a diagnosed disability or developmental delay. These services are provided by making visits with the child and family in their home or other natural environment. The program uses a Primary Coach Approach to Teaming. The Birth to 3 Program is a voluntary program available in every county in Wisconsin and administered in partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. The federal law providing the framework for the Birth to 3 Program is the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

What Services are Available?

A Primary Coach Approach to Teaming ensures that every family has access to a full team of early interventionists that include a teacher, a service coordinator, a speech/language pathologist, a physical therapist and an occupational therapist. Your family will be visited by their primary provider (one of the above early interventionists) to support you in promoting your child's participation in everyday routines and activities. When the expertise of another team member is needed, that team member and the primary provider participate in a joint visit with you.

What do Birth-to-3 Program services look like?

Primary Coach Approach to Teaming

After your child is determined to be eligible for the program, your family, along with anyone else you would like to participate, will develop an Individualized Family Service Plan with your early intervention team. The plan is a joint plan, meaning the family and team come up with the outcomes and strategies together. All services are voluntary and family can refuse any and all services at any time.

Your family's primary provider will work with you through a coaching model to support you and your child's caregivers in expanding on what you already know to support your child's learning and development. Visits will occur in your child's natural environment including home, daycare or babysitter's house and activities will occur within families usual daily routines. Your family's preferred activities and child's interests are an important part of the joint plan. When you or your primary provider have additional questions, another team member may be selected to make joint visits along with your primary provider.

Your team meets on a regular basis to share information and problem solve. Your child will be discussed by the full team at least once every 3 months and you are welcome to send questions to the team or even attend these meetings.

Who is eligible to receive Birth to 3 Program services?

The program serves children from birth to 36 months residing in Shawano County. Eligibility is based on a diagnosed disability or a developmental delay of 25 percent in one or more areas of development determined through an evaluation. The Birth to 3 Program team will evaluate 5 areas of your child's development:

- **Cognitive development:** how your child learns and problem solves
- **Physical/motor development:** how your child moves, sees and hears
- **Speech and Language development:** how your child communicates and understands others speaking to him/her
- **Social and Emotional development:** how your child responds to, relates and plays with others
- **Adaptive development:** how your child eats, dresses and cares for his/her daily living needs

