

Child Find

Public Notice for Child Find

Information is provided to the public concerning the availability of special education services for exceptional children, including procedures for accessing these services. This notice is provided on a regular basis throughout the year through a variety of methods. ***An “Availability of Services” document is provided yearly to each district to be published in their district newsletter. MAR-NEM COOP also distributes brochures about available services to community agencies, such as Head Start, preschools, churches, and doctors’ offices.***

At the beginning of each school year, a special education administrator meets with the building/program administrator at each private and parochial school within the county. At this meeting, we ask the administrator to sign a letter indicating their awareness of our available services. MAR-NEM COOP also has a specific special education administrator assigned to cover the private and parochial schools within the county.

Screening for Children From Birth to Age 5

Kansas’ regulations require each school district to implement screening procedures that meet the following requirements:

- For children younger than five years of age, observations, instruments, measures, and techniques that disclose any potential disabilities or developmental delays that indicate a need for evaluation, including hearing and vision screening.
- Implement procedures ensuring the early identification and assessment of disabilities in children.

Areas screened include:

- Communication
- Cognitive development
- Social-emotional development
- Self-help/adaptive behavior
- Physical development

The team will make a referral for an initial evaluation if the results of the screening indicate a potential developmental delay or disability.

Children who are transitioning from the Part C Infant-Toddler Program are not required to participate in a Part B screening process at age 3. For children receiving Part C services who may need an initial evaluation to determine eligibility for Part B special education services, the Part C Infant-Toddler Program may make a referral to the MAR-NEM COOP. The referral is to be made at least 90 calendar days prior to the child's third birthday.

(Adapted from the KSDE Process Handbook, 2008)

The Tiny K Agency provides screening and evaluation for children from birth through age 3. Screening is conducted once per month or by individual appointments with families.

MAR-NEM COOP has designated one early childhood special education teacher as the liaison working with The Tiny K Agency. This will allow for a more efficient and effective method to ensure children's services do not lapse, and needs are being met in the most appropriate setting.

The MAR-NEM COOP has identified an area team that include the following personnel for the purpose of screening and initial evaluations for children age 3 to school age.

- ECSE teacher
- Occupational therapist
- Speech/language therapist
- Physical therapist (when needed)
- School nurse
- School psychologist (when needed)

Screening for School-aged Children

The General Education Intervention process is utilized for screening school-aged children. Please refer to the GEI/MTSS section for specific information.

Child find, screenings, and evaluation services are conducted in Spanish for Spanish-speaking children. If the child speaks English fluently, the staff member conducts the services, allowing results to be discussed with the family in the native Spanish-speaking tongue. An interpreter shall be called into allow for accurate information to be obtained from the family, and to ensure the parental concerns have been completely understood.

If other languages are needed or translation of forms is needed, we contact surrounding districts and/or private agencies to contract their services for the purpose of the screening/evaluation procedures.