

Early Childhood Transition

(Birth to 3)

Part C

SCREENING FOR CHILDREN FROM BIRTH TO AGE 5

Kansas regulations (K.A.R. 91-40-7(b)) 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.

Screening must include observations, instruments, measures, and techniques that address potential developmental delays or disabilities in the areas of communication, cognitive development, social-emotional development, self-help/adaptive behavior, and/or physical development. This requirement also extends to hearing and vision screenings, which must be available on an equal basis to all children in public and all private schools within the district's boundaries. If the results of the screening indicate a potential developmental delay or disability, the screening team makes the referral for initial evaluation.

Mass screening of all children is not required, but screening is to be available for any child for whom there is a concern about an area of development including communication, cognitive development, social-emotional development, self-help/adaptive behavior, and/or physical development; and hearing and vision. It is recommended that a child should not have to wait more than 30 calendar days for a screening. Young children's needs must be identified as soon as possible, so that early intervention may be provided. Screening is considered to be a quick look at the developmental areas to assist in determining whether a child should be referred for an initial evaluation. There are screening procedures that require minimal staff and time to complete. Screening should be equally available to all children in public and private schools within the school district's boundaries. For preschool age children, the district of residence of each preschool child is responsible for child find even though the child may be attending a preschool or other child care program outside the district of residence.