



Roadmap for Families



COLORADO
Department of Early Childhood



1 Concern for a Child's Development

- The process begins when there is a concern about the development of a young child, birth to age 3.
- Sometimes a health care provider will refer a child. Families can also complete a referral for their own child.
- All children under the age of three who are found eligible can receive services from EI Colorado.



3 First Contact with Care Navigator

- After your child's referral is received, your initial point of contact will be an EI Colorado Care Navigator. They specialize in the referral and intake process and will be your support during the evaluation and eligibility process.
- Your family's care navigator will schedule a conversation about your child's development concerns and schedule the evaluation.



5 Determine If a Child Is Eligible for Services

- Children with delay of 25% or greater in two areas of development or a delay of 33% or greater in one area of development qualify for services through EI Colorado.
- If your child does not qualify, your care navigator will connect you to other programs that can provide support for your child.



7 Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

- For children who are eligible for services, the IFSP is a detailed summary of the support that your family can receive and how those services will be provided.
- The IFSP is created by you and your service coordinator and is reviewed and updated regularly.



Early Intervention services are offered at no cost to families.

The program is voluntary, families are not required to participate.

2 Referring your child to EI Colorado is simple. You can make a referral online, by phone, or by email:

- Complete the [online referral form](#)
- Call 833-733-3734 (833-REFER-EI)
- Email: GetStartedwithEI@state.co.us



Referral to Early Intervention Colorado

4 The evaluation will take between 1-1.5 hours and gives you a snapshot of your child's strengths and areas of need. This evaluation will determine if your child is eligible for EI Colorado services.

- The five areas of development are cognitive (problem-solving, play), social-emotional (interactions with others and self-soothing), physical (how a child moves), communication and language, and self-help/adaptive skills (such as feeding and dressing).



Schedule & Have the Evaluation

6 Once your child is found eligible for early intervention services, your EI Colorado care navigator will contact you to confirm eligibility and connect you with your ongoing service coordinator.

- Local EI programs employ service coordinators that provide support and resources to your family during your child's time in the EI Colorado program.
- Your family's service coordinator will reach out to schedule a meeting about your child's strengths and challenges, as well as your goals for their development.



First Contact with a Service Coordinator

8 If your child continues to receive EI Colorado services after their 2nd birthday your service coordinator will share information with you about the transition process.

- If you are not interested in that path for your child or if you are interested in another program such as private preschool or Head Start your service coordinator will help you navigate your options.



Planning for the Transition