

Early Childhood Screening

The early childhood years from birth to the start of kindergarten are an important time of rapid learning and growth.

*Early Childhood Screening is a quick and simple check of how your child is doing at age 3 to 4. It identifies, at an early age, possible health or learning concerns so children can get help **before** starting school.*



How can Early Childhood Screening help me?

- Ⓞ find out how your child is doing;
- Ⓞ connect you and your child to early childhood programs and other community services; and
- Ⓞ answer your parenting questions.



What happens during a screening?

During the Early Childhood Screening, well-qualified staff will check your child's

- Ⓞ vision
- Ⓞ hearing
- Ⓞ growth
- Ⓞ immunization status
- Ⓞ skills in thinking, communication and language, large and small muscles, and social/emotional development

All of this information is important for your child's continued learning and readiness for future school success. After the screening, you will be given a full report of your child's learning and growth. Information to support your job as a parent will also be available. You will know how your child is developing.

Is there a charge?

Early Childhood Screening is free.

Should I wait until my child is in kindergarten?

Earlier is better! Waiting until a child is in school may be waiting too long. If your child is 3 years old and has not been checked for health and development status, call 952.707.4150 for more information about Early Childhood Screening.

What else should I know?

In order for your child to start kindergarten in any Minnesota public school, you will need to provide your school with your child's Early Childhood Screening Summary and an immunization record.

It is not necessary that your child participate in Early Childhood Screening if he/she has had a similar screening through programs such as Head Start or Public Health Child and Teen Checkups.

