

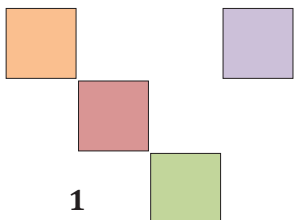
South Carolina Roadmap to Developmental Screening for Children Birth to 36+ Months



Flowchart: Birth to 18 months of age

Follow the arrows through the flowchart to identify and direct families toward the appropriate Autism Spectrum Disorder service(s)

When/What Age	What	By Whom	What Happened	What Next	What Happened	Service Steps	Service Steps
Child is between birth and 18 months of age →	Administer General Developmental Screening →	Primary Care Provider, Child Care Staff, or other provider →	Screening passed ; or sibling with ASD →	Primary Care Provider and others continue to monitor child's development	←←←←←←←← ↑		
			Screening failed ; or screen passed but family still has concerns →	Referral to BabyNet. (can be from parent, Primary Care Provider, child care staff, or other) →	Child ineligible for BabyNet ↑		
					Child eligible for BabyNet →	BabyNet Services begin. Develop IFSP. →	Ongoing monitoring of development and progress

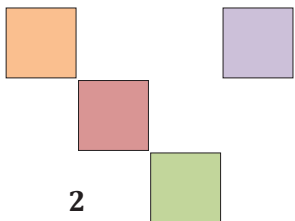


* For information on terms used in the flowchart, see pages 5-10.

Flowchart: 18 to 33 months of age

Follow the arrows through the flowchart to identify and direct families toward the appropriate Autism Spectrum Disorder service(s)

When/What Age	What	By Whom	What Happened	What Next	What Happened	Service Steps	What Happened	Service Steps	Service Steps
Child is between 18 and 33 months of age →	Administer General Developmental Screening and MCHAT at 18 and 24 months →	Primary Care Provider, Child Care Staff, or other provider →	Developmental screen and MCHAT passed →	Primary Care Provider and others continue to monitor child's development	←←←←←←←← ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑				
			Developmental Screen or MCHAT failed ; or screening passed but family still has concerns →	Referral to BabyNet	Child ineligible for BabyNet ↑				
					Child eligible for BabyNet and MCHAT failed →	Develop IFSP. Using state ASD Services Registry, BabyNet Service Coordinator or Primary Care Provider refers to a qualified clinician to administer STAT between 18 - 36 months old →	STAT passed →	BabyNet Services Continue →	Ongoing monitoring of development and progress
							STAT failed →	Review IFSP to add ABA/EIBI Services; Using State ASD Services Registry, BabyNet Service Coordinator works with Primary Care Provider for referral for specialty-level ASD Evaluation →	ASD Evaluation passed ; review IFSP to discontinue ABA/EIBI services
									ASD Evaluation failed ; continue with ABA/EIBI services as included in IFSP



* For information on terms used in the flowchart, see pages 5-10.

South Carolina Roadmap to Developmental Screening for Children Birth to 36+ Months

Information on Terms Used in the Flowcharts

ABA

What is it?

ABA or applied behavior analysis is a validated method that can be used to teach important skills to and provide treatment for children with autism and other developmental disabilities. It can also be used to address problem behavior. (ABA methods are also used with different content for a wide variety of needs).

Who can do it?

ABA is a highly specialized skill that requires extensive training. People who have a BCBA certificate (Board Certification in Behavior Analysis) have demonstrated that they have ABA skills, but not necessarily skills to teach or provide treatment for children with autism. It is important to be sure that anyone providing ABA for a child with autism also have specialized training in autism.

What can you do with the results?

When ABA is used by a professional with proper training in autism the child is likely to gain skills and decrease problem behaviors (if they have those problems). While no approach for helping children with autism is 100% effective, ABA is the most effective and scientifically validated one.

ADOS

What is it?

This is an assessment tool used to provide a diagnosis of autism as part of a comprehensive diagnostic process.

Who can do it?

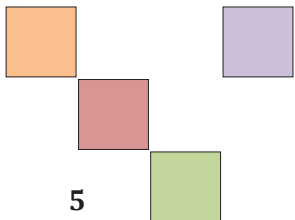
The ADOS can be used by professionals who have advanced training in assessment methods and specialized training in the use of the ADOS. This is most often done by a psychologist.

What can you do with the results?

The ADOS results can contribute to a formal diagnosis of autism.

ASD

As defined by the American Academy of Pediatrics, Autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) are a group of related developmental disabilities, caused by a problem with the brain, affecting a child's behavior, social, and communication skills. ASDs include autistic disorder, pervasive developmental disorder-not otherwise specified (PDD-NOS) and Asperger Syndrome. Autism is a disorder that is usually first diagnosed in early childhood. The main signs and symptoms of autism involve communication, social interactions and repetitive behaviors.



BabyNet

What is it?

BabyNet is the early intervention system for children less than 3 years old who have developmental delays or conditions associated with these delays.

What do they do?

After an evaluation that finds the child eligible for services, BabyNet can provide early intervention services for children who are developing more slowly in learning how to walk, how to listen and talk, how to think, getting along with others or doing things on their own.

Who do you call?

1-877-621-0865 is the number to call for more information about BabyNet.

BabyNet Service Coordinator

Who are they?

Early intervention service coordination is a service provided at no cost to families. These Service Coordinators assist and enable families to access services and assure their rights and procedural safeguards are met.

What do they do?

The BabyNet Service Coordinator coordinates the necessary evaluations and assessments, facilitates the initial IFSP meeting and subsequent reviews, assists the family in receiving the services and supports described on the IFSP, and assures their rights and safeguards.

Child Outcomes

What is it?

An outcome is a benefit experienced as a result of services and supports provided for a child or family. IDEA requires the IFSP team, including the family, to review each child's outcomes or progress in the early intervention system. These outcomes or questions are reviewed from the time the child enters the early intervention system to the time he/she exits.

Who can do it?

The family has the biggest role on the IFSP team in deciding if early intervention services and supports are resulting in the child's development of skills and improvement in everyday routines, activities, and places.

What can you do with the results?

Results help the IFSP team, which includes the family, revise IFSP services and supports to ensure the results the family would like to see for their child and themselves.

DDSN

What is it?

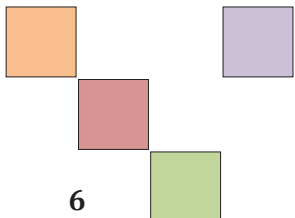
The South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (SCDDSN) is the state agency that plans, develops, oversees and funds services for South Carolinians with severe, lifelong disabilities of intellectual disability, autism, traumatic brain injury and spinal cord injury and conditions related to each of these four disabilities.

What do they do?

If your child is determined eligible, your early interventionist or service coordinator will provide you with an overview of the services that are available, if funding permits, and the various waiting lists that you may want to place your child on.

Who do you call?

1-800-289-7012 is the number to call for more information about DDSN and/or to determine if your child meets eligibility criteria. (Please see BabyNet /First Steps if your child is under 36 months of age.)



DDSN Early Interventionist

What is it?

Early Intervention is a family-focused, in-home service for children from birth to age 6 years. The service includes two components: Family Training and Service Coordination, provided in accordance with an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) for children birth to three by BabyNet; or a Family Service Plan (FSP) for children three to six years of age by DDSN.

What do they do?

An Early Interventionist helps families understand their child's development and gives specific training to assist the family in addressing these areas of delay. They also help families access other services and supports to address needs identified in the child's plan.

Who do you call?

If your child is eligible for BabyNet, depending upon the needs of your child, you may be transferred to a DDSN provider of your choice for the delivery of Family Training and Service Coordination. However, if your child is over the age of three, you should call the DDSN statewide toll-free information line at 1-800-289-7012. They will determine whether or not your child meets the criteria for DDSN eligibility, and needs the assistance of an Early Interventionist or a Service Coordinator.

EIBI

What is it?

Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention uses ABA intervention based on the child's individual needs. The intervention will focus on teaching and improving key skills (as needed) such as communication, social skills, reading, and adaptive living skills such as motor skills, eating, self-care, and others.

Who can do it?

Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention (EIBI) is provided in South Carolina under the supervision of a person who has Board Certification in Applied Behavior Analysis (BCBA) and specialized training and experience in autism. They develop the plan based on assessment of the child and discussion with the family and they supervise staff that work directly with the child. The child usually receives 20 – 30 hours of direct intervention per week.

What can you do with the results?

The results of EIBI should be important and measurable increases in important skills by the child. These skills should be ones that have a direct effect on the child's ability to communicate, behave well, and perform in home, school, and community situations.

FSP

What is it?

A Family Service Plan (FSP) is used by DDSN for children receiving early intervention services.

What do you do with it?

It is developed by the DDSN early interventionist with the family to assure the child's needs are identified and addressed.

Head Start

What is it?

Head Start is a free, comprehensive, child development and services program for **low-income** pre-school children ages, three, four and five and their families. Head Start promotes school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of health, educational, nutritional, social and other services. Parent and community development is the cornerstone of the program.

Who do you call?

(803) 771-9404 is the number for the South Carolina State Head Start Association. They can help you find a Head Start program in your area.



IEP

What is it?

IEP stands for *Individualized Education Program* (sometimes called an “Individualized Education Plan,” “Individual Education Plan,” or some combination). This is a legally binding document that spells out exactly what special education services your child will receive and why. It will include your child’s classification, placement, services such as a one-on-one aide and therapies, academic and behavioral goals, a behavior plan if needed, percentage of time in regular education, and progress reports from teachers and therapists. The IEP is planned at an IEP meeting and can be revised as needed.

Who can do it?

The IEP is developed by a team. The team is assembled by the school. It must include a regular education teacher, a special education teacher, other professionals from related services such as a speech therapist, a representative from the school district and the parents. Others who have knowledge about the child or the child’s disability can be invited by either the parents or the school. The parents are an equal member of this team. When appropriate, the child with a disability should also participate.

What can you do with the results?

The IEP process is designed to establish annual goals for the individual child. The team evaluates the present levels of performance and works to establish goals to help the child catch up with their typical peers. Progress is reported to the parents at least as often as report cards are sent home.

IFSP

What is it?

The Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) is a written plan, developed in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C for infants and toddlers with disabilities. It is both a process and a document used to assist families and other team members in their combined efforts to plan for and meet the developmental needs of their young child from birth to age three, receiving early intervention services (called BabyNet in South Carolina).

What do you do with it?

The IFSP is a written plan of who will do what, when, and where. It documents the early intervention goals and services for an eligible child and the child’s family. The IFSP is a “living document” that changes and grows as the child’s and family’s needs change, and is reviewed at least every 6 months and rewritten annually.

Who does it?

The IFSP is developed together with the child’s family, service coordinator, service providers, evaluators, and other persons the family would like to invite, at IFSP team meetings. Team members share their expertise with families and other team members, and families make decisions about which goals they need and want for their child and themselves.

MCHAT

What is it?

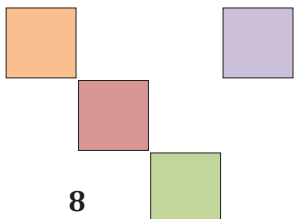
The MCHAT (Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers) is a series of questions to identify children between 16 and 30 months old who may be at risk for autism.

Who can do it?

The MCHAT can be given by a wide variety of specialists and professionals.

What can you do with the results?

The MCHAT does not provide a diagnosis. It does identify children at risk for autism, but additional screening and evaluation will be needed for any child that the MCHAT finds to be at risk. A child found to be at risk by the MCHAT should be evaluated with a more in-depth screening tool such as the STAT.



Where can I find a list of Physicians that administer the MCHAT?

The South Carolina Autism Treatment Network (SCATN) webpage has a “Participating Practices” tab with a map showing where MCHAT trained physicians are located: <http://scatn.med.sc.edu> . Additional information is available from SCATN by phone (803)434-4536 or email scatn@uscmed.sc.edu.

Primary Care Provider

Who are they and what do they do?

A physician, such as a pediatrician, general practitioner or internist, chosen by an individual to serve as his or her health-care professional and capable of handling a variety of health-related problems, of keeping a medical history and medical records on the individual, and of referring the person to specialists as needed.

School District Services

What do you need to do to receive them?

Many families think that if they get a diagnosis for their child, that it applies to all services. Unfortunately, this is not the case. Frequently, schools perform their own evaluations to determine if a child has autism for educational purposes. When a developmental pediatrician makes an autism diagnosis according to the medical diagnostic standard, the school might not recognize this. It is important to be aware that in South Carolina, your child will likely need to be evaluated by the school in order to receive school services.

Who do you call?

For more information about procedures in your school district, call the school district. Contact information for your school district can be found at the SC Department of Education School District Directory <http://ed.sc.gov/schools/>

Specialty-Level ASD Evaluation

What is it?

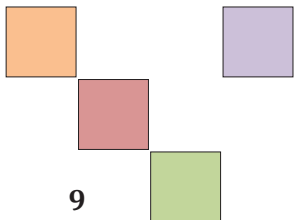
A specialty ASD evaluation includes the use of measures/tests specifically designed to assess for an autism spectrum disorder. While the specific measure/test may vary, these measures/tests involve detailed interaction with and observation of the child suspected of having an ASD and historical interview with the individual’s caregivers. As part of this evaluation, developmental assessment or other medical testing may also be conducted to assess for the presence of other diagnoses. The results of the ASD-specific measures/tests and the other assessments and tests given will be analyzed and interpreted by the person(s) conducting the evaluation and this information will be used in conjunction with clinical observation to determine a diagnosis of an ASD. It is important to note that the specific tests/ measures used may be determined, in part, by the requirements of the individual’s insurance plan or the reason for seeking the evaluation (e.g., to qualify for services under Ryan’s Law).

Who can do it?

These evaluations are typically conducted by licensed psychologists and/or physicians with training, experience and expertise in evaluating and diagnosing autism spectrum disorders.

What can you do with the results?

A diagnosis of autism by a licensed psychologist and/or physician is a medical diagnosis. Most insurance companies require a medical diagnosis made by a licensed provider to be eligible for reimbursement for any services provided based upon the diagnosis of autism (e.g., ABA intervention). A medical diagnosis of autism may also be required or be helpful in qualifying for services from other agencies.



STAT

What is it?

The STAT (Screening Tool for Autism in Toddlers and Young Children) is a second level screening tool to identify children that are at risk for autism designed for use by STAT-trained professionals. It is designed for use with children ages 18 – 36 months.

Who can do it?

The STAT should be given by a professional who has received special training in the use of this screening tool. BabyNet and DDSN have a list of these professionals.

What can you do with the results?

A child less than three years old who is found to be at risk of autism on the STAT gets “presumptive eligibility” for both BabyNet services and behavioral intervention therapy. This means that the child can receive these services even though they do not have a diagnosis of autism.

Where can I find a list of STAT Trained Professionals?

<http://ddsn.sc.gov/consumers/early-intervention/Pages/default.aspx>

This web address will take you to the Early Intervention section of the DDSN website where you can find a link to STAT providers.

Transition Planning

What is it?

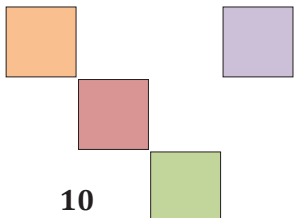
Transition planning helps move children from the early intervention program, BabyNet, into the school system. In South Carolina, BabyNet serves children from birth until 3 years of age. Once a child turns three, that responsibility belongs to the local school districts. This process should start prior to the child’s third birthday. In most cases the transition planning will begin around age 2 years 6 months. But the process can start as early as 2 years 3 months.

Who can do it?

The process begins with the IFSP team. The IFSP team needs to make an initial determination that the child is likely to be eligible for special education from the schools (also referred to as Part B). If the team believes that the child will meet the criteria, the team and the Early Interventionist will make a referral to the school and invite them to participate in the transition conference. The school should then begin the initial evaluations to ensure the child is eligible for Part B (school) services. This should generally take place by 2 years 9 months of age. If the child is found eligible, the school will develop an Individual Education Plan (IEP) committee, where the parents are an equal participant. The IEP team will use the IFSP and the evaluations just completed to develop an individualized education plan (see IEP Section for more information).

What can you do with the results?

The transition planning process is used to help facilitate the move between Part C services (BabyNet) and Part B services (School District). The goal is that the transition is smooth and does not cause a large disruption in the services the child receives.





This document was developed and provided by the South Carolina Act Early Team with funding provided by the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs to the Center for Disability Resources (UCEDD) at the University of South Carolina. This team is a statewide effort initiated by the Association of University Centers on Disabilities with funding from the National Center for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (CDC) and the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (HRSA). The mission of the South Carolina Act Early Team is focused *collaboration among leaders representing professionals, state agencies, universities, healthcare systems, private organizations, and families to improve the quality of life for children, youth, and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families.* The project is intended to support the work of the Learn the Signs Act Early Campaign of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/index.html>