

How Northwest Regional Education Service District provides a continuum of educational services from Early Intervention through grade 12



October 8, 2024

CP CCO Community Health Summit

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Presenters

Kim Lyon

Matt Doyle

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Who else is in the room today?

Doctors/Clinic Staff?

Social Workers?

Mental Health Workers?

Home visitors?

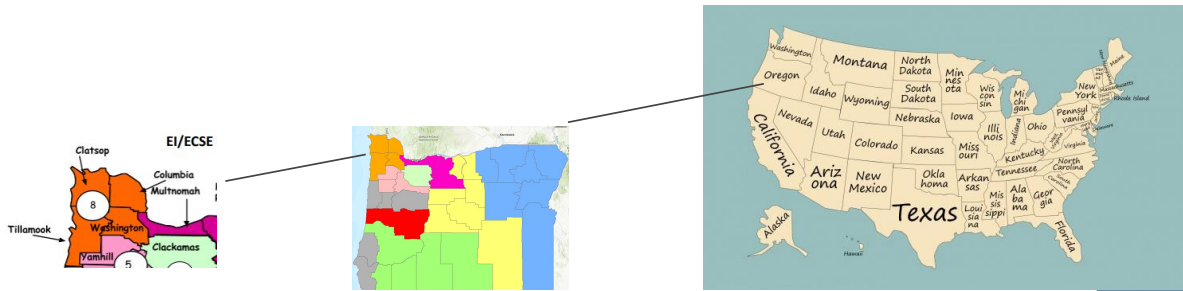
Others?

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Objectives for this Session

Participants will:

- Deepen their understanding of special education, especially EI/ECSE (Federal, State, Local levels)
- Learn how/when to make referrals for EI/ECSE services
- Be able to explain the local pathway from referral to services



Zooming out- Federal Landscape



Education for All Handicapped Children Act

Signed by President Ford, requiring all states to provide equal access to education for children with disabilities.

1975

Handicapped Children's Protection Act reauthorized as Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Signed by President Clinton.

1990

2004

Handicapped Children's Protection Act

Signed by President Reagan. Gave parents more say in the child's IEP.

IDEA Reauthorized.

1975

Special Education Services are mandated at the Federal Level.

What is IDEA?

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, as amended in 2004 (IDEA 2004-PL 108-446), is a federal law governing special education services and federal funding for eligible infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities across the country.

Children and youth (ages 3-21) receive special education and related services under IDEA, **Part B**. Infants and toddlers with disabilities (ages birth-2) and their families receive early intervention services under IDEA, **Part C**.

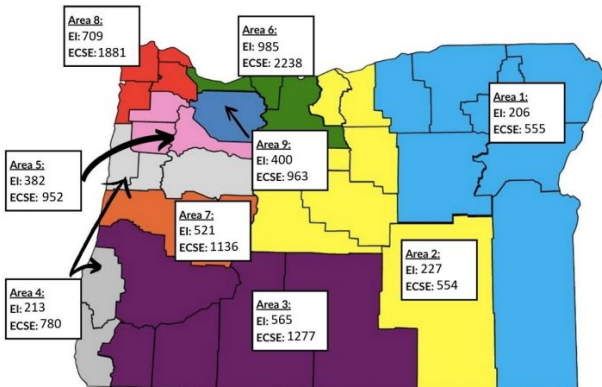
In Oregon, IDEA funds helped support the education of almost **83,000** children with disabilities in the past year.

For more information about IDEA see the [U.S. Department of Education website](https://www.ed.gov/).

Source: <https://www.oregon.gov/ode/rules-and-policies/Pages/IDEA-Policy.aspx>

Zooming in - Services In Oregon

14,544 Oregon children
were enrolled in EI/ECSE as of April 2024



Early Intervention Services (EI)

Ages served: Birth-35 months

Early Childhood Special Education Services (ECSE)

Ages served: 3rd Birthday - Transition to Kindergarten

Source: <https://www.oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/SpecialEducation/earlyintervention/Documents/govreport.pdf>

Oregon Service Delivery Model

Birth-5	Family Participation	Waitlist?	Cost?	Service Delivery
Services and supports are created by the team and outlined in the child's <u>IFSP</u> .	Active participation from the family ensures that individualized goals are meaningful and delivered in a culturally responsive manner.	There are NO waitlists and children must be seen for evaluation and services within certain timeframes*.	Evaluation and services are provided at NO COST to families.	Ages 0-2: Services are provided in a child's Natural Environment (home or childcare). Ages 3-5: Services are provided in the child's Least Restrictive Environment.
		*EI: Referral to Services – 45 days ECSE: 60 School Days after consent for evaluation is signed by parent		

Oregon's Seamless System

“Oregon’s Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) Services provide a **seamless system** to support the developmental and educational needs of children ages **birth to five** and their families. EI/ECSE programs ensure that children who qualify for special education receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), as required in the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA).”

Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education are Highly Effective

Oregon’s EI/ECSE programming:

Increases school readiness,

Reduces the impact of disabilities and developmental delays on children

Prevents the need for future interventions when participating children receive recommended individualized services.

Source: <https://childinst.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Early-Intervention.pdf>



EI/ECSE is one small piece of a very **comprehensive puzzle**.

Some Other Collaborative Partners

Healthy Families
Early Head Start
Community Preschools
Head Start
ODHS

Early Learning Hub
CCR&R
Physicians
K-12 School Districts



How do families get connected with EI/ECSE in Oregon?

Hey, who can refer a child?

Great Question!
Anyone who is concerned about a child's development can make a referral.

Making a quality referral...

Tips to Expedite the Process:

1. Inform the family of the referral you are making.
2. Check child's county of residence to submit it to the right program.
3. Use the [Universal Referral](#) Form. Have families sign the consent section.
4. Include developmental screening info (Such as the Ages and Stages Questionnaires), if you have it.
5. Sign and include a Medical Condition Statement, if appropriate.

CHILD/PARENT CONTACT INFORMATION	
Child's Name: _____	Date of Birth: ____/____/____
Parent/Guardian Name: _____	Relationship to the Child: _____
Address: _____	City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
County: _____	Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
Text Acceptable: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Best Time to Contact: _____
Primary Language: _____	Interpreter Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
PARENT CONSENT FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION (more about this consent on page 4)	
Consent for release of medical and educational information	
I, _____ (print name of parent or guardian), give permission for my child's health provider _____ (print provider's name), to share any and all pertinent information regarding my child, _____ (print child's name), with Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) services. I also give permission for EI/ECSE to share developmental and educational information regarding my child with the child health provider who referred my child to ensure they are informed of the results of the evaluation.	
Parent/Guardian Signature: _____	Date: ____/____/____
Your consent is effective for a period of one year from the date of your signature on this release.	
OFFICE USE ONLY BELOW:	
Please fax or scan and send this Referral Form (front and back, if needed) to the EI/ECSE Services in the child's county of residence	
REASON FOR REFERRAL TO EI/ECSE SERVICES	
Provider: Complete all that applies. Please attach completed screening tool.	
Concerning screen: <input type="checkbox"/> ASQ <input type="checkbox"/> IASQ-SE <input type="checkbox"/> PEDS <input type="checkbox"/> IM-CHAT <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
Concerns for possible delays in the following areas (please check all areas of concern and provide scores, where applicable):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communication _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Fine Motor _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Social _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Gross Motor _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Problem Solving _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Clinician concerns (including vision and hearing) but not screened: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Family is aware of reason for referral.	
Provider Signature: _____	Date: ____/____/____
If child has an identified condition or diagnosis known to have a high probability of resulting in significant delays in development, please complete the attached Physician Statement for Early Intervention Eligibility (on reverse) in addition to this referral form. Only a physician licensed by a State Board of Medical Examiners may sign the Physician Statement.	
PROVIDER INFORMATION AND REQUEST FOR REFERRAL RESULTS	
Referring Provider Name: _____	Referral Contact Person: _____
Office Phone: _____	Address: _____
Office Fax: _____	City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Primary Care Provider: _____	
If the child is eligible, medical provider will receive a copy of the Service Summary.	
EI/ECSE EVALUATION RESULTS TO REFERRING PROVIDER	
EI/ECSE Services: please complete this portion, attach requested information, and return to the referral source above.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Family contacted on ____/____/____. The child was evaluated on ____/____/____ and was found to be: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eligible for services <input type="checkbox"/> Not eligible for services at this time, referred to: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent Declined Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Parent Does Not Have Concerns <input type="checkbox"/> 45 Day Due Date	
<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to contact parent <input type="checkbox"/> Attempts: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> EI/ECSE will close referral on ____/____/____.	

What happens after your referral is received?

- Intake specialists reach out to family to determine if they're interested in moving forward with the referral.
 - ODE asks programs to make at least 3 attempts and use all the methods provided in the referral (phone, email, text, mail). If families are reached and agree, an evaluation is scheduled.
- If the family does not respond after 30 days, file is made inactive.
- If parents report no concerns, file is made inactive.

The Evaluation Process...

Most referred children are evaluated by a **multidisciplinary team** to determine if they meet ODE eligibility criteria.

- Birth-35 Months: All areas of development are evaluated.
- Three Year-Olds to Kindergarten: Only areas of suspected delay are evaluated.

Exceptions:

- 1) Birth-3 year-olds with qualifying medical conditions do not need an evaluation. A signed Medical Condition Statement can qualify them.
- 2) In some instances, if only speech concerns are present for a child over three-years old - an evaluation will be conducted by an SLP only, who is working in consultation with their teammates.

Eligibility Requirements

EI Eligibility Requirements	ECSE Eligibility Requirements
<p>Significant Developmental Delay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.5 standard deviations (7th percentile) or more below the mean in two developmental areas, or • 2.0 standard deviations (2nd percentile) below the mean in one area <p>OR</p> <p>Qualifying Medical Condition</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Categorical Eligibility (Low Vision, DHH, Autism, OI, Deaf-Blindness)</p>	<p>Significant delay in two or more developmental areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.5 standard deviations (7th percentile) or more below the mean <p>OR</p> <p>Categorical Eligibility (Low Vision, DHH, Autism, OI, Deaf-Blindness, Communication Disorder, OHI, etc)</p> <p>Results must indicate the delay or disability is having an adverse impact on student's developmental/educational performance</p>

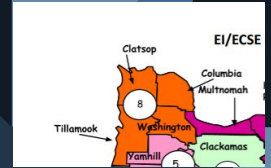
AFTER the Evaluation Process...

Evaluation Team and parents/family members hold an **Eligibility Meeting**.

If a child does not meet the eligibility requirements, resources are shared.

If child is made eligible, **an IFSP** (Individualised Family Service Plan) is developed by a team including parents and specialists. The IFSP outlines goals and services to support the child and family.

Physicians are sent a Summary from the evaluation, provided parents have signed consent to do so.



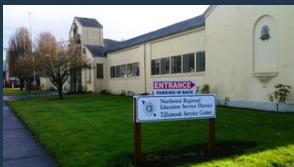
Zooming all the way IN: Our Local EI/ECSE Program

NWRESD is the contracted **Local Service Provider** for the **EI/ECSE** program in four counties, including:
Washington, Tillamook, Columbia and Clatsop.



Washington County

Main ESD office (Washington Service Center)
3 Early Childhood Centers in Beaverton, Hillsboro, and Tualatin



Tillamook County

Tillamook Service Center (at Wilson School Bldg)



Clatsop County

Clatsop Service Center (at Robert Gray School Bldg)



Columbia County

Columbia Service Center

NWRESD's Impact on Families



Note: This video mostly highlights the EI/ECSE program, and a couple other NWRESD programs are featured as well.

NWRESD's EI/ECSE Services Defined...

EI at NWRESD

The Early Intervention (EI) program provides services and supports to families of eligible children from birth to age 3 years. The program helps families develop the skills they need to help their children learn and grow. Services are delivered through a parent coaching model at home or in other care-giving settings.

ECSE at NWRESD

ECSE Services include specially designed instruction and related services such as physical, occupational, or speech and language therapy. These services are often provided at community preschools, child care facilities or designated sites, such as the County Service Centers.

NWRESD EI/ECSE Services

Services provided may include:

- Service coordination (much like case management in other system-of-care settings)
- Specially-designed instruction from an Early Childhood Education Specialist (teacher)
- Speech therapy
- Occupational and physical therapy
- School Psychologist support
- Instructional assistance in classroom settings
- Regional Inclusive Services consultations (Autism, Vision, etc)

Current Regional Trends in Referrals and Evaluations Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook Counties

Top Five Referral Sources in Each County

Clatsop	
Physician/Clinic	47.17%
Parent/Family	41.51%
Childcare/Preschool	9.43%
DHS/CAPTA	2.52%
Hospital	0.63%

Columbia	
Parent/Family	39.73%
Physician/Clinic	33.33%
Childcare/Preschool	9.43%
DHS/CAPTA	7.74%
Head Start	4.71%

Tillamook	
Physician/Clinic	46.74%
Parents	21.74%
Childcare/Preschool	13.04%
DHS/CAPTA	10.87%
Healthy Families	3.26%

**Based on Placed Kids as of August 2024*

Clatsop County

					%age of referrals that led to evaluations	%age of referrals that did not get evaluated	% of referred children who qualified for services
22-23	Referrals Received	Qualified	DNQ	Total Evaluations			
EI (birth-35 months)	73	43	25	68	93.15%	6.85%	58.90%
ECSE (3 years - 5 years)	85	74	12	86	100.00%	n/a	
23-24	Referrals Received	Qualified	DNQ	Total Evaluations			
EI (birth-35 months)	61	35	11	46	75.41%	24.59%	57.38%
ECSE (3 years - 5 years)	109	55	9	64	58.72%	41.28%	

Columbia County

					%age of referrals that led to evaluations	%age of referrals that did not get evaluated	% of referred children who qualified for services
22-23	Referrals Received	Qualified	DNQ	Total Evaluations			
EI (birth-35 months)	96	58	5	63	65.63%	34.38%	60.42%
ECSE (3 years - 5 years)	154	75	5	80	51.95%	48.05%	
23-24	Referrals Received	Qualified	DNQ	Total Evaluations			
EI (birth-35 months)	117	70	8	78	66.67%	33.33%	59.83%
ECSE (3 years - 5 years)	216	145	11	156	72.22%	27.78%	

Tillamook County

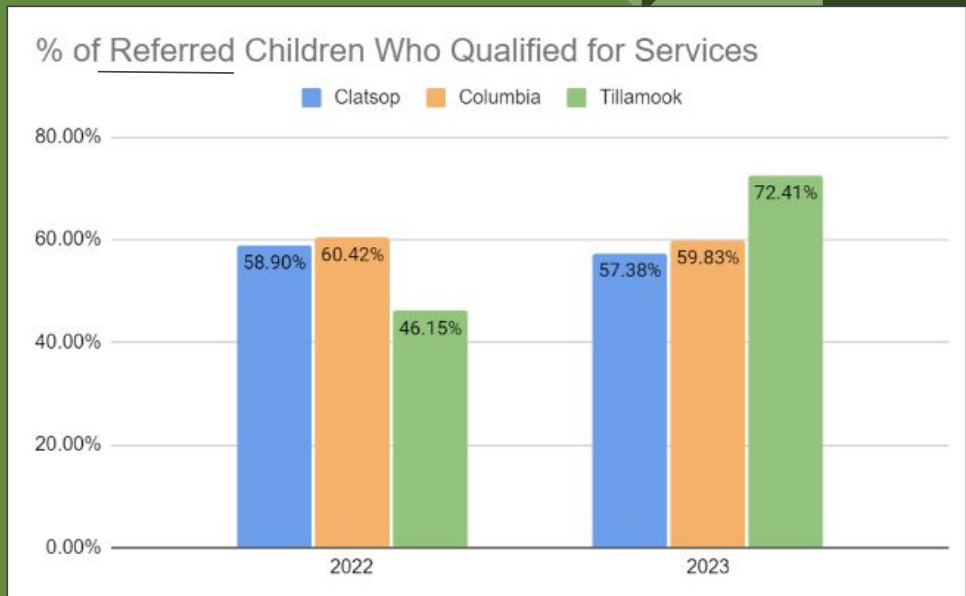
					%age of referrals that led to evaluations	%age of referrals that did not get evaluated	% of referred children who qualified for services
22-23	Referrals Received	Qualified	DNQ	Total Evaluations			
EI (birth-35 months)	26	12	9	21	80.77%	19.23%	46.15%
ECSE (3 years - 5 years)	49	30	7	37	75.51%	24.49%	
23-24	Referrals Received	Qualified	DNQ	Total Evaluations			
EI (birth-35 months)	29	21	5	26	89.66%	10.34%	72.41%
ECSE (3 years - 5 years)	64	36	8	44	68.75%	31.25%	

Percentage of Evaluated Children that Qualified

Qualified		DNQ	Total Evaluations
43	63%	25	68
74	86%	12	86
35	76%	11	46
55	86%	9	64

Qualified		DNQ	Total Evaluations
58	92%	5	63
75	94%	5	80
70	90%	8	78
145	93%	11	156

Qualified		DNQ	Total Evaluations
12	57%	9	21
30	81%	7	37
21	81%	5	26
36	82%	8	44



Talk with an elbow partner or group share out:

- How could we, as system partners, work together to increase the number of referrals that lead to evaluations?
 - What other questions does this raise for you?

Practice Scenario: You regularly interact with a parent who has a two year-old. The child is only speaking in single words, often appearing to be frustrated and hitting his mom. You would like to refer him for Early Intervention. How would you do it? What would you say to the parent?

Wait...what happens once kids go to kindergarten?

Transition Planning is a cornerstone of IDEA.

There are transitions from EI to ECSE, from ECSE to school-age and from school-age to adulthood. All transitions are handled with care and intentionality.

When an ECSE child enrolls for kindergarten, the school-age team will hold a transition meeting to develop an IEP to put supports in place at the local school.

Some smaller districts in our region contract with NWRESA to provide some of their K-12 special education services, but the child will generally remain enrolled in their local school district and families will correspond with their local special education program.



Northwest Regional
Education Service District