

STUDENT REFERRAL

If you suspect your preschool child may have a disability, and you live in Brown Local, Canton Local, Fairless Local, Jackson Local, Lake Local, Marlinton Local, Minerva Local, Northwest Local, Osnaburg Local, Plain Local, Sandy Valley Local or Tuslaw Local School District, please contact your Special Education Director or Stark County Educational Service Center Early Childhood Department at 330-492-8136.

The process for determining whether or not a child has a disability may include the following steps:

1. **Determination of Suspected Disability –**
A school psychologist or case manager will contact you to make arrangements to interview you, screen, observe, and assess your child. If a disability is suspected, the team will ask for your signature giving consent to test your child for an Evaluation Plan that will be summarized in an Evaluation Team Report (ETR). The ETR will include further norm-referenced and criteria testing in areas of suspected disability, and must be completed within 60 days of your signed consent.
2. **Evaluation Team Meeting –**
A team of Special Education staff will meet to review the evaluation results and determine if your child qualifies as a child with a disability. The educational needs of your child will be identified at this meeting. If your child qualifies for services, you will be asked to attend an Individualized Educational Planning (IEP) meeting within 30 days.
3. **Individualized Educational Planning (IEP) Meeting –**
At this meeting, you and the team will develop proposed learning goals for your child that address the educational needs that were identified through the ETR. The team will also propose a preschool placement where special education services can be provided to your child. The placement decision is based first on your child's needs, and whenever possible will consider the preferences and needs of the family.