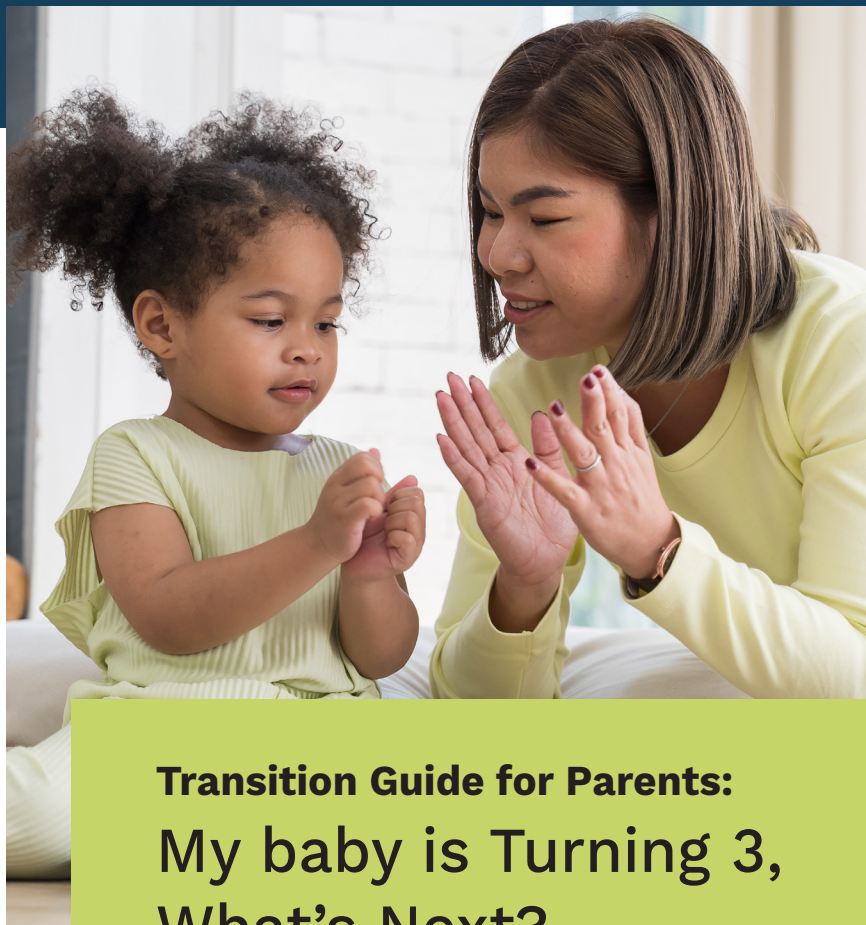


# Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI)



## **Transition Guide for Parents: My baby is Turning 3, What's Next?**



Health and  
Human Services

Public Health





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## Common Acronyms

<b>ADA</b>	Americans with Disabilities Act
<b>AEA</b>	Area Education Agency
<b>AEM</b>	Accessible Educational Materials
<b>AT</b>	Assistive Technology
<b>DHH</b>	Deaf or Hard of Hearing
<b>ECO</b>	Early Childhood Outcomes
<b>FAPE</b>	Free Appropriate Public Education
<b>HAT</b>	Hearing Assistive Technology
<b>IDEA</b>	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
<b>IEP</b>	Individualized Education Program
<b>LRE</b>	Least Restrictive Environment
<b>SLP</b>	Speech Language Pathologist
<b>TOD or TDHH</b>	Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

## Communication Milestones



**Scan Here!**

Scan the QR code to visit the EHD Communication Options page to find up to date resources and communication milestones.

[hhs.iowa.gov/ehdi-comms](https://hhs.iowa.gov/ehdi-comms)



## Let's Talk Transition!

Moving from early intervention (Early ACCESS) to preschool services for children with hearing differences can bring up a lot of emotions. It's exciting to see your child grow, but it can also feel overwhelming! You want to make the best choices for their future, but it's not always easy to know where to start. **Here are a few steps to help you through this big change:**



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## **1. Learn About Your Child's Needs and Services:**

Knowing what is available will help you feel more confident when it is time to meet with your child's team. Let your team know early if you intend to send your child to preschool so you can plan together.

## **2. Visit Preschool Programs:**

Visit the program your child will be attending to see how they will fit in. Will they need any extra tools or support to help them? Are there other kids or adults who communicate in the same way as your child?

## **3. Connect with Other Parents:**

Talking to other parents who've been through this transition can be really helpful.

## **4. Stay Involved:**

Once your child starts preschool, keep in touch with their teachers and staff. Staying involved will make a big difference in knowing if the program is working for your child and how they are doing.

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**Remember, you are not alone in this journey!** There are people, resources, and other parents who want to help you, and your child succeed. The Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program can help answer any questions you may have.

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## IEP and 504 Plans

*What's the difference? What's the same?*

### IEP

- ▶ Must fit one of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) disability eligibility categories.
- ▶ Provides specially designed instruction and services to meet the child's needs.
- ▶ Annual goals and progress monitoring.
- ▶ Parent participation is required to make decisions about services.
- ▶ The focus is on eligible child's strengths and needs.
- ▶ IEPs are for children and young adults ages 3-21.

## **504**

- ▶ Any Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) recognized disability/health concern that would require some accommodations.
- ▶ Focuses on how the child learns.
- ▶ No goals or progress monitoring.
- ▶ School does not have to seek parental input to develop plan.
- ▶ Applies to any school receiving public funds.
- ▶ 504 plans can go follow a child throughout their life and beyond the K-12 setting.

## **What's the Same?**

- ▶ FREE for parents.
- ▶ Should meet the child's needs.

## How Do I Get Services For My Child?

An IEP is a legally binding document that ensures your child certain rights according to IDEA.

The IDEA ensures a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) which means modifying a child with disability's educational program to their needs in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).

At your child's IEP meeting, you will receive a Procedural Safeguards Manual that outlines the rights of the parent.

For more information on services for your child, visit [iowaideainformation.org](http://iowaideainformation.org)



# What to Know BEFORE the IEP Meeting

- 1. What is an IEP:** An IEP is a written document of the educational program/plan created to meet a child's individual's needs.
- 2. What is in the IEP:** Each IEP is specific to the individual child. The IEP must contain the following:
  - ▶ the child's present level of academic achievement and functional performance
  - ▶ annual goals
  - ▶ special education and related services the child will receive
  - ▶ any appropriate modifications and accommodations
- 3. Who develops an IEP:** The IEP is developed with your child's team which includes the parent, the school team and AEA staff. Input and recommendations can be considered from outside sources.

## Common Accommodations

- ▶ Use of HAT in specials, groups, 1:1 and whole class instruction
- ▶ Priority Seating
- ▶ Reduce auditory and visual distractions
- ▶ Allow extra time for processing information
- ▶ Repeat or rephrase information when necessary
- ▶ Use visual aids or tactile manipulatives
- ▶ Captioning for videos/movies etc.
- ▶ Interpreter
- ▶ Speech to text software
- ▶ Extra time to complete assignments and tests
- ▶ Pre-teach and post-teach vocabulary concepts

## Hearing Technology

*What to consider before sending hearing technology to school:*

- ▶ Make sure your child's teachers are aware of your child's hearing technology and its different parts.
- ▶ Make a plan with the school if your child's equipment stops working at school. Do you want them to change batteries or contact you?
- ▶ School can be a busy place. Consider purchasing a headband, or clip to make sure the device stays on your child's head.

## Practicing Safety at School

*It's never too early to start teaching your child about how to stay safe! Here are a few ideas to think about before sending your child to school.*



Practice walking to and from school, know the bus route if they will be riding a bus, and know the driver and talk about how your child will communicate with them.



Visit the playground to get an idea of activities your child may be doing at recess.



Know the school's safety policies and emergency plans. Does an emergency plan need to be added to your child's IEP?



Can your child access the alert system for announcements? If not, consider how those will be made accessible for your child.



Consider creating a "Go Kit" with things like extra batteries, communication devices, pens and paper for writing during emergencies and other items that may be needed.



Know the staff member that will carry out your child's safety plan. Make sure your child knows who they are and can go to them with questions or concerns.

## Tips for the Teacher

*Things to share with your child's teacher before school*

- ▶ Be aware of the noisy areas in the classroom (ex. air conditioner or an open classroom door).
- ▶ Reduce back-lighting concerns.
- ▶ Make eye contact and speak clearly!
- ▶ Arrange seats in a horseshoe or a circle.
- ▶ Use the Hearing Assistive Technology (HAT) during whole classroom instruction.

## Socialization Tips for Students Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

*Deafness and hearing loss may affect communication skills. Communication is a key role in socialization. Here are a few tips to facilitate social development.*

- ▶ **Encourage** social independence.
- ▶ **Educate your child** about their hearing loss and technology available for them to advocate for themselves.
- ▶ **Maintain and strengthen social ties:** create playgroups and involve your child in extracurricular activities.
- ▶ **Reach out** to deaf/hard of hearing (DHH) adults who are willing to share their experiences.

## Advocating for Accommodations for Sports and Extracurricular Activities

- ▶ The IDEA requires that schools provide students with disabilities appropriate aids and services to enable students to participate in extracurricular activities.
- ▶ Under Section 504 Regulations: schools cannot deny a qualified student the opportunity to benefit from an aid or service. The school must also provide reasonable modifications to programs and policies to ensure that students have the opportunity to participate.



# Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Program



## Contact Us!

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🖱 [hhs.iowa.gov/ehdi-families](https://hhs.iowa.gov/ehdi-families)



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