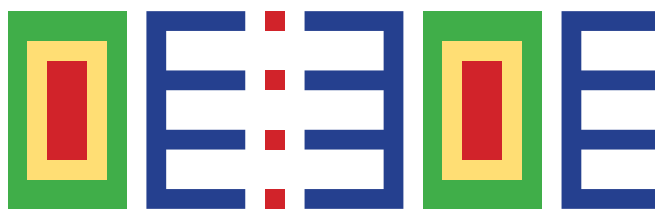




"We were scared to call at first, but we're so glad we did. Now our two-year-old is learning to walk and we've learned how to use everyday activities to help him even more."

—A Minnesota mother



Make the Call

Every child deserves a chance to grow, develop, and learn. Finding help is fast and easy.

- If you have questions—or don't even know what questions to ask—call PACER Center at 952-838-9000 or 800-537-2237 (toll free). Ask to speak to Lucy Favorite.

Lucy is an understanding parent advocate who is also a mother of a child with special needs. You will be able to talk about your concerns with her and learn where to find the services you need. You may also request family-friendly written materials.

- Call your local school district office and ask to speak to the person in charge of early childhood special education. Explain that you have concerns about your child. Ask how to find out if your child is eligible for early childhood services.



Are You Concerned about How Your Baby or Young Child:

**Sees or Hears?
Moves or Plays?
Talks or Learns?
Behaves?**

Find out what to do next...

Life Improves for Your Child and Family

With early childhood services and supports, you:

- help your whole family
- learn how to understand your child's strengths, abilities, and special needs
- are more confident making decisions about your child's services

**PACER Center
Opening Doors of Possibilities for
Children with Disabilities**

www.pacer.org

8161 Normandale Boulevard
Minneapolis, MN 55437-1044

Voice (952) 838-9000 | TTY (952) 838-0190
Fax (952) 838-0199 | Toll-free (800) 53-PACER

E-mail: pacer@pacer.org

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You'll Feel Better if You Check Out Your Concerns

Many parents wonder if their babies and young children are developing, growing, and learning as well as possible. If your wondering has turned to worrying:

- Talk with your child's doctor.
- If you still have concerns, check further.

You'll be glad you did.

The Earlier You Act, the Better for Your Child

Some babies and young children need extra help to learn important skills, such as crawling, walking, and talking. The sooner they receive it:

- The easier it is to help them.
- The more ready they'll be to learn when they enter kindergarten.

Your school district can help you determine if your child has special developmental needs that qualify for free help.



"My community's traditions and the way I view my child were respected."



Free Help is Available

If your child qualifies, the school district will provide a service coordinator to help you plan the services and supports your child and family need. These may include:

- Early childhood special instruction and related services such as speech, occupational, and physical therapy.
- Tips on how to help your child develop skills at home.
- Connections to helpful community services.

If your child is not eligible for services, the school district can still help you find community resources.

"I was able to bring my auntie with me to all the planning meetings."