

# CHILD FIND

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **WHAT IS CHILD FIND?**

Child Find is the process of locating, identifying and evaluating children, ages 0 to 21, with disabilities who may be in need of special education and related services.

### **WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF CHILD FIND?**

To assist school districts in finding children that may have disabilities who otherwise might not have been brought to their attention.

To enable children and families to receive the special education and related services that they need.

To promote public awareness of disabilities and special education services that are available.

### **HOW CAN CHILDREN BE REFERRED?**

A child can be referred by anyone who has a concern about their development. This may include:

- Parents / legal guardians / foster parents
- Physicians / health care providers
- Child care providers
- Infants and Toddlers programs
- Other family members
- School personnel
- Community agencies
- Others who are concerned about a child's development.

### **WHEN SHOULD A CHILD BE REFERRED TO CHILD FIND?**

A child should be referred when:

- A health or medical disorder interferes with their development and/or learning.
- They appear to have difficulty seeing or hearing.
- They appear to have social, emotional, or behavioral difficulties that affect their ability to learn.
- Their speech is difficult to understand.
- They have difficulty learning to read, write or develop math skills.
- They are diagnosed with a progressive or degenerative condition that will impair or impede their ability to learn.

### **ARE THERE ANY COSTS INVOLVED?**

No, the Tulsa Public School System provides free screenings and appropriate educational programs and related services for students with disabilities.

### **WHO TO CONTACT:**

Parents/guardians of children from birth to 3 years of age who have or might have developmental delays should contact The Sooner Start Early Intervention Program at (918) 835-8691 for information.

Parents/guardians of preschool children 3 to 5 years of age that have a disability or might have a disability but are not enrolled in the public school should contact the Tulsa Public Schools Special Education Department at (918)746-6391.

Parents/guardians that have a child who is attending Tulsa Public Schools and suspect a disability exists should contact their child's school principal or counselor and request a meeting.

Parents/guardians whose child attends a private school may contact Tulsa Public Schools Special Education Department at (918)746-6391