

CONNECTING THE PATH:

- ❖ **EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES**
- ❖ **EARLY HEAD START & HEAD START**
- ❖ **CHILD FIND SERVICES**

AND HOW THEY MAY HELP YOUR CHILD

OFFERED BY:

NEVADA DISABILITY ADVOCACY & LAW CENTER
THE PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SYSTEM FOR NEVADA



**NEVADA DISABILITY
ADVOCACY & LAW CENTER**

Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center

Southern Office

2820 W Charleston Blvd. Suite B11

Las Vegas, NV 89102

Phone: (702)-257-8150 or 1-888-349-3843

Nevada Relay: 711

Fax: (702)-257-8170

lasvegas@ndalc.org

Northern Office

1875 Plumas Street, Suite 1

Reno, NV 89509

Phone: (775) 333-7878 or 1-800-992-5712

Nevada Relay: 711

Fax: (775) 786-2520

reno@ndalc.org

Elko Office

905 Railroad Street, Suite 104B

Elko, NV 89801

Phone: (775) 777-1590 or 1-800-992-5715

Nevada Relay: 711

Fax: (775) 753-1690

elko@ndalc.org

www.ndalc.org

Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center (NDALC) is a private, statewide non-profit organization that serves as Nevada's federally-mandated protection and advocacy system for human, legal, and service rights for individuals with disabilities. NDALC was designated as Nevada's protection and advocacy system by the Governor in March, 1995.

Services provided by NDALC include, but are not limited to: information and referral services, education, training, negotiation, mediation, investigation of reported or suspected abuse/neglect, legal counsel, technical assistance, and public policy work.

NDALC has offices in Las Vegas, Reno, and Elko with services provided statewide. All services are offered at no cost to eligible individuals in accordance with NDALC's available resources and service priorities.

NOTICE

While this publication is intended to provide basic information, it is not legal advice. Attempts were made to ensure its accuracy but readers should direct questions concerning their specific situations to the Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center (NDALC), or a legal aid agency, or a private attorney.

All, or portions, of this Resource Guide may be duplicated and distributed without charge, but with proper attribution to the Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center.

All websites and other contact information were verified as of June 2017, but may have changed after this date.

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Introduction

Early Intervention and Early Childhood Education Services are on the front lines of watching children develop. The ultimate goals for both programs are:

- ✚ effectively coordinate developmental screenings and referral systems that will allow young children to be active and successful participants during their early childhood years and in the future in a variety of settings (e.g. in their homes with their families, in child care, in preschool or other school programs, and within the community).
- ✚ enable families to provide care for their child and have the resources they need to participate in their own desired family and community activities.

Early Identification

What children experience during their early years sets a critical foundation for their entire lifespan. When children with special needs or a disability are screened and diagnosed at a young age, early interventions are more likely to lead to better outcomes, which will provide the tools they need to be better prepared for success in school and life.

It is critical for parents to talk to their child's primary care provider (PCP) about healthy development and any other parental concerns. In many cases, early "red flags" of delays can be noticed long before a child's first birthday. Parents know their child best, so they should speak up and talk to their PCP who is trained to conduct screenings for potential developmental delays.

Although the process can seem scary for many parents, screenings are a first step and only indicate a need for further evaluation that may lead to a final diagnosis.

Caution is also necessary. If the PCP only reassures parents or tells them to 'wait and see,' it might be time for a second opinion with another provider. Health insurances, whether private or state funded (Medicaid), usually cover second opinions.

For uninsured children, parents should contact:

- ✚ Nevada Healthlink at 1-855-7NVLINK (1-855-768-5465), or visit their website at <https://www.nevadahealthlink.com/>
- ✚ Nevada Health Centers and/or Nevada Community Health Centers.

For additional information call NDALC at Las Vegas at 702-257-8150, Reno at 775-333-7878 and Elko at 775-777-1590 or visit our website at www.ndalc.org.



Early Intervention Services (Ages 0 up to 3)

Thanks to a powerful and important federal law called the **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, (IDEA- 336,895)**, eligible infants and toddlers (birth until age 3) may receive early intervention services under Part C of IDEA. You can find more information about these Part C laws at: <http://idea.ed.gov/>

Early Intervention Services (EIS) are designed to meet the needs *of eligible infants and toddlers* who have a developmental delay or disability. Services may also address the needs and priorities of each child's family by helping family members understand the special needs of the child and how to enhance his or her development. Visit http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/Early_Intervention_Programs/

Early Intervention Services might include:

- + Developmental evaluation (including evaluation of speech, language, motor, cognitive, and social development)
- + Occupational therapy
- + Physical therapy
- + Speech and language therapy
- + Special instruction
- + Nutritional services
- + Nursing services
- + Family training
- + Specialized Services (Craniofacial clinic, vision, hearing)

Once the child is found eligible the types of services that are provided will depend upon the child's needs, state specific rules and the recommendations from the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) Team. The IFSP team is composed by the parents & professionals. The team will develop outcomes & strategies to meet the child's needs & parent's concerns. Some families will need to supplement these services with additional services depending upon the needs of the child. Visit <https://nv.medicalhomeportal.org/living-with-child/early-services-0-5-years/early-intervention-part-c-program>

Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) administers the early intervention services in the State of Nevada. The program is available to families with children under the age of three (3) *who meet Nevada's eligibility requirements*. For additional information contact **Project ASSIST** - Nevada's Statewide Central Directory for Early Intervention Information at ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov or 1-800-522-0066 or visit its website at <http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST/>

How to enroll your child in NEIS services?

If you are concerned about your child's development, you or your child's physician or another professional can refer your child directly to an Early Intervention program. If your child qualifies for the program, you will be assigned a **service coordinator** who will help you through the process.

What is the Developmental Specialist (DS) - Service Coordinator role?

- ✚ To provide direct instruction to eligible children birth up to three in the confine of a natural environment (home or community environment).
- ✚ To educate parents on ways to improve their child's skills.
- ✚ To focus on helping children learn the basic and brand-new skills that typically develop during the first three years of life, such as:
 - ✚ Physical (Fine motor: reaching, touching, holding or anything relate to small muscles like fingers, hands, etc. Gross motor: rolling, crawling, and walking or anything regarding the large muscles like arms, legs, feet, etc.).
 - ✚ Cognitive (thinking, learning, solving problems).
 - ✚ Communication (expressive & receptive language: talking, listening, understanding).
 - ✚ Social/emotional (peer's interaction, imitation, feeling secure and happy).
 - ✚ Self-help (feeding, dressing, toileting, etc.).
- ✚ To evaluate, develop and facilitate activities promoting the overall development of the child using a family centered model.

Nevada Early Intervention Office Locations:

Visit http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/Early_Intervention_Programs/.

Northern Nevada Offices

**State Early Intervention
Referral & Information Line
Project Assist**
1-800-522-0066
ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

Reno
2667 Enterprise Rd
Reno, NV 89512
Referral Line: 775-688-1341
Fax Number: 775-688-2984

Carson City
3427 Goni Rd. Ste. 104
Carson City, NV 89706
Referral Line: 775-687-0101
Fax Number: 775-687-0110

Elko
1020 Ruby Vista Dr. Suite 102
Elko, NV 89801
Referral Line: 775-753-1214
Fax Number: 775-753-6017

Ely
1500 Avenue F, Suite B
Ely, NV 89301
Referral Line: 775-289-1622
Fax Number: 775-289-1685

Winnemucca
475 West Haskell St. Suite 24
Winnemucca, NV 89445
Referral Line: 775 - 623-6593 Ext. 244
Fax Number: 775 - 623- 6594

Southern Nevada Office

Las Vegas

1161 S Valley View Blvd.

Las Vegas, NV 89102

Referral Hot Line: 702-486-9200

Front Desk: 702-486-7670

Fax: 702-486-7686

For additional information, questions or concerns about Early Intervention Services contact the following agencies:

- ✚ Project ASSIST - Nevada's Statewide Central Directory for Early Intervention Information at 1-800-522-0066 or visit its website at <http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST/>.
- ✚ Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center (NDALC) offers support with understanding your child's rights as you go through the EIS process and negotiating with NEIS to ensure that early intervention services are delivered in an appropriate and timely manner. Call NDALC: Las Vegas at 702-257-8150, Reno at 775-333-7878 and Elko at 775-777-1590 or visit our website at www.ndalc.org.
- ✚ Nevada PEP, the Parent Training and Information Center for the state of Nevada, at its statewide line 1-800-216-5188 or <http://www.nvpep.org/>.
- ✚ Family TIES of Nevada, the Nevada Family to Family Health Information Center for children with disabilities, at its statewide free line at 1-866-326-8437 or www.familytiesnv.org.



Nevada Early Head Start (Pregnant Women and Children Ages 0 up to 3)

Nevada Early Head Start programs serve pregnant women and children (from birth up to age 3) and their families. This program engages parents in their children's learning and also helps them to make progress toward their educational, literacy and employment goals. Visit <http://www.doe.nv.gov/HeadStart/>.

Early Head Start programs are federally funded and may also receive some state or local funding. In addition to income eligibility, the programs also have requirements to serve a certain proportion of children with disabilities, or identified developmental delays. Early Head Start can be beneficial for children with special needs and/or disabilities as it provides an inclusive environment where children can play and learn with same-age peers.

Early Head Start program services may include:

- ✚ Structured activities and educational play
- ✚ Health screenings
- ✚ Family interactions to help children learn and develop skills
- ✚ Parenting classes
- ✚ Developmental milestones checks

These services can be very beneficial for children receiving early intervention services; as well as for those children who were not eligible for NEIS services, even though they have a developmental delay.

Nevada Early Head Start Providers (Visit: http://www.doe.nv.gov/Early_Learning_Development/HeadStart/Near_You/)

Northern Region:

Little People's Early Head Start

435 S 13th Street
Ely, NV 89301
Phone: 775-289-6113
Fax: 775-289-6209

University of Nevada, Reno

Mail Stop 0392
Reno, NV 89557
Phone: 775-682-8480
Fax: 775-784-4916

Community Services Agency (CSA)

1094 East Eighth Street
Reno, NV 89512
Phone: 775- 786-6023
Fax: 775- 284-1218

Southern Region:

Sunrise Children Foundation

2795 E. Desert Inn Rd Ste. 100
Las Vegas, NV 89121
Phone: 702-731-8373
Fax: 702-731-8372
<http://www.sunrisechildren.org/ehs.php>

For additional information, questions or concerns call Nevada 211; Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center (NDALC) at Las Vegas at 702-257-8150, Reno at 775-333-7878 and Elko at 775-777-1590 or visit our website at www.ndalc.org; Nevada PEP statewide line at 1-800-216-5188 or <http://www.nvpep.org/> or Family TIES of Nevada at its statewide free line at 1-866-326-8437 or www.familytiesnv.org.



Nevada Head Start (Ages 3 up to 5)

When a child graduates from Early Intervention Services and/or Early Head Start programs, parents should apply to Head Start and/or Child Find Services.

Nevada Head Start programs serve children ages 3 until 5 and their families. Children who attend this program:

- ✚ Participate in a school-readiness curriculum that includes literacy, language, science, mathematics, and social-emotional development
- ✚ Receive medical and dental services
- ✚ Have healthy meals and snacks
- ✚ Enjoy playing safely in- and out-of-doors

In addition to the educational services, family involvement is at the core of the program's success. Head Start families can take part in the classroom as a volunteer or help with classroom projects and even help to develop the curriculum.

These services can be very beneficial for children graduating from Early Intervention and/or Early Head Start Programs.

Nevada Head Start Providers (Visit: http://www.doe.nv.gov/Early_Learning_Development/HeadStart/Near_You/)

Northern Region:

Community Services Agency (CSA)

1094 East Eighth Street
Reno, NV 89512
Phone: 775- 786-6023
Fax: 775- 284-1218

Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada

PO Box 7440
Reno, NV 89510
Phone: 775- 355-0600
Fax: 775- 355-0648
www.itcn.org

Little People's Head Start

435 S. 13th Street
Ely, NV 89301
Phone: 775- 289-6113
Fax: 775- 289-6209

Reno Sparks Indian Colony

34 A Reservation Rd.
Reno, NV 89502
Phone: 775- 789-5615
Fax: 775- 789-5659
www.rsic.org

Washoe Tribe Head Start

919 Hwy 395 S.
Gardnerville, NV 89410
Phone: 775- 265-1074
Fax: 775- 265-5568

Southern Region:

Acelero Learning Clark County

4366 West Cheyenne,
North Las Vegas, NV. 89032
Phone: 702- 387-0179
Fax: 702- 387-2071
<http://www.ancelero.net/>

For additional information, questions or concerns call Nevada 211; Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center (NDALC) at Las Vegas at 702-257-8150, Reno at 775-333-7878 and Elko at 775-777-1590 or visit our website at www.ndalc.org; Nevada PEP statewide line at 1-800-216-5188 or <http://www.nvpep.org/> or Family TIES of Nevada at its statewide free line at 1-866-326-8437 or www.familytiesnv.org.



Child Find (Ages 3 up to 21)

The **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)** includes the **Child Find mandate** which requires all school districts **TO** identify, locate, and evaluate all children with disabilities.

The main goal of Child Find is to evaluate all children (from age 3 up to age 21) and identify those who are eligible for, and need, additional services or supports through special education and related services when they are **NOT enrolled in public school** (children graduating from early intervention and early Head Start programs, children coming from private schools, homeschool and moving to Nevada from out of state or another country).

A determination whether a child is eligible for services is made following his/her evaluation in accordance with eligibility requirements established by the State of Nevada. The evaluation also assists in determining a child's program placement and services. In addition, parents will assist in developing an Individualized Educational Program (IEP) for their child.

For additional information about Child Find services ***please call your local school district***. Below you will find the contact information of Nevada School District offices:

✚ Carson City County – 775 - 283-2000	Website: http://www.carsoncityschools.com/
✚ Churchill County – 775 - 423-5187	Website: http://www.churchill.k12.nv.us/
✚ Clark County – 702 - 799-7463	Website: http://ccsd.net
✚ Douglas County – 775 - 265-5262	Website: https://www.dcsd.k12.nv.us/
✚ Elko County – 775 - 753-8646	Website: http://www.ecsdnv.net/
✚ Esmeralda County – 775 - 485-3213	Website: http://www.esmeraldacountyschools.com/
✚ Eureka County – 775 - 237-5700	Website: http://www.eureka.k12.nv.us/
✚ Humboldt County – 775 - 623-8128	Website: http://www.hcsdnv.com/
✚ Lander County – 775 - 635-2886	Website: http://www.lander.k12.nv.us/
✚ Lincoln County- 775 - 728-8000	Website: http://lcsdnv.com/
✚ Lyon County – 775 - 463-6800 ext. 129	Website: http://lyon.schoolblocks.com/
✚ Mineral County – 775 - 945-2403	Website: http://www.mineral.k12.nv.us/
✚ Nye County – 775 - 751-4015	Website: http://www.nye.k12.nv.us/
✚ Pershing County – 775 - 273-5099	Website: http://www.pershing.k12.nv.us/
✚ Storey County – 775 - 847-0983	Website: http://www.storey.k12.nv.us/
✚ Washoe County – 775 - 327-0685	Website: https://www.washoeschools.net
✚ White Pine County – 775 - 289-4851 ext. 107	Website: http://www.whitepine.k12.nv.us/

For additional information, questions or concerns about Child Find Services contact the following agencies: Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center (NDALC) offers support with understanding your child's rights as he/she goes through his/her school years, and advocating to ensure that special education services are delivered in an appropriate and timely manner. Call NDALC at Las Vegas at 702-257-8150, Reno at 775-333-7878 and Elko at 775-777-1590 or visit our website at www.ndalc.org. You should also contact Nevada PEP at its statewide line 1-800-216-5188 or <http://www.nvpep.org/> or Family TIES of Nevada at its statewide free line at 1-866-326-8437 or www.familytiesnv.org.

As each of these programs has specific eligibility criteria please contact them for additional information.



Helpful Resources

Boys Town Nevada (only in Southern Nevada):

Brings an innovative approach to child and family care to those in need in the Las Vegas area. The site's Integrated Continuum of services includes In-Home Family Services SM and Common Sense Parenting® classes, to prevent disruption in the home and facilitate reunification by ensuring that families have the supports and skills they need to create and maintain a safe, stable environment for their children.

Some of the services Boys Town Nevada provides are: In Home Family Services and Common Sense Parenting Classes. Through these services families that are struggling to stay due to an underlying cause or other circumstances are able to keep children in the home, or to reunify them with their family if they have been removed from their home. In addition, help parents to build strong, healthy relationships, correct and change problem behavior, minimize problems that disrupt family life, raise responsible, caring children, communicate effectively, avoid power struggles, control your emotions, balance discipline with affection and praise a child's good behavior.

Boys Town Nevada

821 North Mojave Road

Las Vegas, NV 89101

P: 702-642-7070

F: 702-649-3906

www.boystown.org/nevada

<http://www.boystown.org/locations/nevada/Pages/contact-us-admissions.aspx>

 **CDC Learn the Signs. Act Early:** <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/index.html>
<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/downloads.html>

 **Center for Parent Information and Resources:** <http://www.parentcenterhub.org/?s=Part+c>

 **Children's Cabinet:**

Offer services and resources that address unmet needs. The Children's Cabinet's work extends past the immediate needs of youth and families to promote happy, healthy families. It provides early childhood services through the Supporting Early Education and Development Program (SEED), which provides Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) in Nevada. CCR&R promotes quality child care that is affordable and accessible to all members of our community. SEED actively engages providers, community agencies, businesses, and parents to help meet this goal.

Reno - Main Office:

1090 South Rock Blvd,
Reno, NV 89502
Phone: 775.856.6200
Fax: 775.856.6208
<http://www.childrencabinet.org/>

Carson City Office:

2527 N. Carson Street, # 255
Carson City, NV 89701
Phone: 775-684-0880
Fax: 775-887-1365
Toll Free: 866-434-2221

Las Vegas Office:

6161 W. Charleston Blvd. Bldn. 3A
Las Vegas, NV 89146
Phone: 702-486-5507
Fax: 702-486-5509

Elko Office:

1020 Ruby Vista Drive, Ste. 101
Elko, NV 89801
Phone: 775-738-8998
Fax: 775-738-8999
Toll Free: 800-753-5500

- ✚ **Nevada Community Health Centers:** <http://nvpc.org/nevadas-community-health-centers/>
- ✚ **Nevada Early Head Start and Head Start Programs:** <http://www.doe.nv.gov/HeadStart/>
- ✚ **Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS):**
http://adsd.nv.gov/Programs/InfantsToddlers/Infants_Toddlers/
<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/Publications/>
- ✚ **Nevada Health Centers:** Call to Make an Appointment at 1.800.787.2568 or visit their website at:
<https://www.nevadahealthcenters.org/>
- ✚ **Nevada Part C Program:** <http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/PartC/>
- ✚ **Nevada PEP:**
Nevada PEP provides information, services and training to Nevada families of children with disabilities.

PEP services are about empowering families to be life-long advocates for their children through education and skill building. PEP recognizes that parents are experts on their children; and must learn about disabilities, intervention needs, and how to develop a support system to meet those needs.

Nevada PEP Support Services: * Information and Referral * Training Workshops * TIPS” Information Articles * Public Awareness * Lending Resource Library * Individual Assistance to Families * Community Specialist Network * Support Groups * Volunteer Opportunities * Conflict Resolution Support * Family Support Services

Training Workshops Offered: www.nvpep.org
* Early Intervention and IFSP’s * Special Education Process * IEP Clinics, etc.

✚ CENTRAL OFFICE

2101 S. Jones Blvd Suite 120
Las Vegas, NV 89146
702-388-8899
Toll Free Line: 800-216-5188

SATELLITE OFFICE

4600 Kietzke Lane, Suite O-269
Reno, NV 89502
775-448-9950

- ✚ **Office of the Administration for Children and Families Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center (ECLKC):** <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/ehsnrc>

✚ Project ASSIST (Nevada’s Statewide Central Directory for Early Intervention Information):

The purpose of Project ASSIST is to provide information, resources, and referral services to inform and educate families of infants and toddlers with disabilities or special health care needs, and the general public. If you are concerned about your child's development, the first step is to have your child referred for evaluation and assessed for Early Intervention Services by calling the toll free number (800) 522- 0066 or email to ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov or visit its website at http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/Early_Intervention_Programs/.