



Preschool Program for Children with Disabilities

What Is It?

- A Preschool Program for Children with Disabilities (PPCD) is a special education program for children with disabilities who are between age 3 to 5. PPCD services are free and designed to prepare students for school.
- PPCD services vary by district but may include classroom services, dual enrollment with private preschool programs, and Head Start programs.

Dual enrollment- when a child stays at home or attends a private preschool (at the family's expense) while also receiving special education and related services through the school district.

Head Start- programs designed to prepare economically disadvantaged children for school by providing early reading and math skills. There are income requirements for participation. Head Start programs required to have 10% of the student population as children with disabilities.

Pre-Kindergarten- programs for children ages 3 to 5 that are offered by the school district. They include students with and without disabilities.

Specialized Placement- A segregated placement on a specific campus in the school district, which is limited to children with disabilities. It may not be located in the family's home school.

- Children who qualify for PPCD may also receive to related services and therapies at **no cost**.

How Do I Get Started?

- In order to receive PPCD, a child must be evaluated by the local school district and meet criteria to receive special education services.
- To initiate an evaluation:
 - Step 1:** Call the school district and ask to talk to the person responsible for "Child Find" or to someone in the special education department.
 - Step 2:** Request that your child be evaluated for PPCD. Put the request in writing as well and mail it to the school. Save a copy for your records.
 - Step 3:** You must to sign and return a consent form before your child can be evaluated.



Potential Services under PPCD

- Speech therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- In-home parent training
- Counseling for children and parents
- Social work services
- Transportation

Resources

Navigate Life Texas: Resources for Kids with Disabilities and Special Needs

<https://www.navigatelifetexas.org/en/education-schools/what-is-ppcd>

Texas Project FIRST: Family, Information, Resources, Support, & Training

<http://texasprojectfirst.org/node/167>

Dell Children's Advocacy Program

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