Early Learning Answers On the Go – English Version

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| **What are early intervention services, and how can these services help my child?** |
| **Early intervention services** are provided to children who have been determined to have a developmental delay or disability that impacts their ability to learn new skills and overcome challenges.  There are two important federal laws that impact how schools serve children with developmental delays and disabilities.  The Americans with Disabilities Act, often simply called A-D-A, is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including schools.  The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, or I-D-E-A, is a federal law that ensures that children with disabilities are provided free, appropriate education.  Under I-D-E-A, two organizations serve children, depending on their age.  **Early Steps** provides services of **I-D-E-A** for infants and toddlers with disabilities, age birth to 3. If a child qualifies, an **Individualized Family Service Plan** will be created to outline and provide the services that will meet the child’s and family’s needs.  **The Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System** **Child Find** works with local school districts to provide services for children ages 3-6 not enrolled in kindergarten. If a child qualifies, an **Individual Educational Plan** will be created to list the services that will meet the child’s needs.  For more information about these intervention plans, call the Division’s toll-free number at one-eight-six-six, three-five-seven, three-two-three-nine.   * Show DEL’s toll-free phone number onscreen: 1 (866) 357-3239. |