

# Early Steps Identification

## What is Developmental Delay?

A developmental delay suggests a child has not achieved a developmental milestone, such as crawling, walking or talking when expected. Children may have delays in the areas of physical, cognitive, communication, social/emotional and adaptive development.

- Physical development (fine motor skills, gross motor skills)
- Cognitive development (intellectual abilities)
- Communication development (speech and language)
- Social or emotional development (social skills, emotional control)
- Adaptive development (self-care skills)

## I think my child might be delayed, what do I do?

Contact Amity Buckner, Pickens County First Steps (PCFS) Early Steps Identification at 864-654-3000 or via e-mail at [abuckner@scfirststeps.org](mailto:abuckner@scfirststeps.org)

Amity will help you determine if your child will benefit from a **FREE** developmental screening.

## What happens after the screening?

If the screening determines that your child shows signs of developmental delay(s) and might qualify for early intervention services, PCFS will refer your child to *Baby Net* for further evaluation.

## What early intervention services can *BabyNet* provide?

All early intervention services are designed "to enhance the family's capacity to meet the developmental needs of the child."

Services may include: audiology, family training, health services, nursing, nutrition services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychological services, social work special instruction, speech/language pathology, transportation and/or vision services.

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## Early Steps Identification (ESI)

ESI is a program designed to support families and care givers with the identification and referral of children with developmental delays.

# What do I look for?

Typical Child Development looks like...

## Physical Development

### Fine Motor Skills

- bringing both hands to midline (center of body) by 10 months
- banging objects together by 10 months
- clapping their hands by 12 months
- deliberately and immediately releasing objects by 12 months
- able to tip and hold their bottle by themselves and keep it up, without lying down, by 12 months
- using a fist grasp to hold a crayon at 18 months
- using a mature pincher grasp (thumb and index finger, pad to pad) by 18 months
- imitating a drawing of a vertical line by 24 months
- able to snip with scissors by 30 months

### Gross Motor Skills

- rolling by 7 months
- pushing up on straight arms, lifting his head and shoulders by 8 months
- sitting independently by 10 months
- crawling ("commando" crawling--moving across the floor on belly) by 10 months
- creeping (on all fours, what is typically called "crawling") by 12 months
- sitting upright (without props) in a child-sized chair by 12 months
- pulling to stand by 12 months
- standing alone by 14 months
- walking by 18 months
- jumping by 30 months
- walking by self on stairs (up and down) by 30 months

## Cognitive Development

- imitating body action on a doll by 15 months (i.e., kiss the baby, feed the baby)
- able to match two sets of objects by item by 27 months (i.e., blocks in one container and people in another)
- able to imitate a model from memory by 27 months (i.e., show me how you brush your teeth)
- able to match two sets of objects by color by 31 months

## Communication Development

- laughing and squealing with delight by 6 months
- saying first word by 12 months
- understanding simple commands (i.e., "come here") by 12 months
- saying 8-10 words you can understand by 18 months
- speaking 50 words and using 2-3 word sentences by 24 months
- using 3-5 word sentences by 36 months
- repeating simple rhymes by 36 months

## Social/Emotional Skills

- smiling by 4 months
- making eye contact during activities and interacting with peers and/or adults
- performing for social attention by 12 months
- imitating actions and movements by 24 months
- engaging in pretend play by 24 months
- demonstrating appropriate play with an object (i.e. instead of trying to put objects into a container, the child leaves the objects in the container and keeps flicking them with his fingers)

## Self-Care Skills

- feeding him/herself finger foods by 14 months
- attempting to use a spoon by 15 months
- picking up and drinking from a regular open cup by 15 months
- able to pull off hat, socks or mittens on request by 15 months
- attempting to wash own hands or face by 19 months
- assisting with dressing tasks (excluding clothes fasteners) by 22 months
- able to deliberately undo large buttons, snaps and shoelaces by 34 months

