



**NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

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Early Intervention and Therapeutic Services
Children with Special Needs
Preschool Special Education
Physically Handicapped Children's Program

Date:

Re:

DOB:

NYEIS Child Ref #:

Dear Parent/Guardian:

When your child turns three years old he/she may be eligible for preschool special education. If your child is found eligible for preschool special education, your child can either:

Start preschool special education on _____

OR

Stay in the Early Intervention Program (EIP) until _____ and start preschool special education the day after.

It is possible that your child will *not* meet the criteria for preschool special education. In this case, your child's EIP services will end the day before your child turns three years old. Your service coordinator will help you to develop a transition plan that will include the next steps for your child and your family, and referrals to other supports and services.

Only the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) of your local school district can decide if your child is eligible for preschool special education.

This notice tells you about the steps you, your service coordinator, and the CPSE must take to find out if your child meets the criteria for preschool special education. These steps include:

- planning with your service coordinator the steps and services that will help your child to transition from the EIP to preschool special education;
- deciding whether to opt-out of notice to the CPSE that your child might be eligible for preschool special education;
- meeting, if you choose to do so, with your service coordinator and CPSE chairperson or designee;
- referring your child to the CPSE;
- deciding which EIP records will be forwarded to the CPSE;
- having your child evaluated by the CPSE; and
- determining your child's transition date.

If your child is not evaluated by the CPSE, and is not found eligible for services by the CPSE before your child turns three years old, your child's EIP services will end *the day before your child's third birthday*.

Please read the following information carefully. Your service coordinator can answer any questions you may have.

Remember, the CPSE must decide if your child is eligible *before your child turns three years old*, to be sure that your child gets the services he/she needs.

Enclosed with this letter are documents explaining more information about the transition process: Steps to Transition and an EI/CPSE Comparison, copies of these documents are also available on the Niagara County Health Department webpage at the following link:

https://www.niagaracounty.com/departments/a-f/children_with_special_needs/preschool_special_education.php, under the Early Intervention/Child Find tab and the Preschool Special Education tab.