



What to do while Waiting for an Autism Center Appointment

This handout includes resources that may help you while waiting for your child's appointment at the Autism Center.

Early intervention and educational services in Washington

For Children 0 to 3

Children with developmental delays may qualify for early intervention services even before they have a formal evaluation or get a diagnosis. For children under the age of 3, services are most often provided by local centers know as Birth to Three Centers or Neurodevelopmental Centers.

To find out more about early intervention services in Washington, contact:

- Family Health Hotline at 1-800-322-2588
- WA State Department of Early Learning website at www.del.wa.gov

For Children over 3

IDEA, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, is a law that ensures that all children with special needs have access to free and appropriate public education. Children who qualify for IDEA services continue to receive educational services when they turn 3, through a family's local school district. These services are often provided through developmental preschools.

To find out more, contact your local school district by visiting the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction website at K12.wa.us/maps/schoolURL.aspx or call 360-725-6000.

Speech and occupational therapy services

Your health insurance may cover speech and occupational therapies for communication, social, motor and sensory delays and deficits. Contact your insurance provider to find out which services and providers are covered.

Suggested books

Does My Child Have Autism: A Parent's Guide to Early Detection and Intervention in Autism Spectrum Disorders, Wendy Stone and Theresa DiGeronimo, 2006.

The Complete Guide to Asperger's Syndrome, Tony Atwood, 2007.

More than Words: A Parent's Guide to Building Interaction and Language Skills for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder or Social Communication Difficulties, Fern Sussman, 2012.

To Learn More

- Autism Center
206-987-8080 or toll free 1-866-987-2000
- Ask your child's healthcare provider
- www.seattlechildrens.org

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your child's nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.
- For Deaf and hard of hearing callers 206-987-2280 (TTY).

Autism research

Participating in research is a possible way to have your child evaluated for autism. Seattle Children's Research Institute and The University of Washington Autism Center (UWAC) both offer research opportunities that **might** include an evaluation for autism. This option may or may not provide family support, guidance, or follow up care. We recommend you consider keeping your referral at Seattle Children's Autism Center to establish care and receive ongoing support.

To learn more about autism research opportunities:

- Seattle Children's Research Division
206-884-8266
www.seattlechildrens.org/research
- University of Washington Research
1-877-408-8922 depts.washington.edu/uwautism/research/index.html

Suggested websites

Seattle Children's Autism Center

www.seattlechildrens.org/clinics-programs/autism-center/resources/
Provides autism education, support groups, Autism 101 and Autism 200 series information and The Autism Blog at www.theautismblog.org.

Autism Speaks

www.autismspeaks.org

Families for Effective Autism Treatment (FEAT)

www.featwa.org

Autism Society of Washington

www.autismsocietyofwa.org

Washington Autism Alliance & Advocacy (WAAA)

www.washingtonautismadvocacy.org

Arc of Washington State

www.arcwa.org