

## **What is Child Find?**

Child Find is a process designed to identify, locate, and evaluate individuals (birth through 21 years of age) with disabilities who may need special education services.

## **Who can begin the Child Find Process?**

Anyone can start the process: A parent, doctor, teacher, relative, or friend can call the Pike County School System's, Special Education Department at 334-566-1850 ext. 81117.

## **Why should we refer?**

- Early identification and intervention can prevent failure and frustration.
- Special attention to teaching and learning strategies may help individuals overcome barriers to learning.

## **What happens after the individual is referred?**

- The parent(s) or legal guardian will be contacted by Pike County School System's personnel.
- Parent(s) or legal guardian and the school will decide if an assessment is needed. This same group may develop an assessment plan designed to evaluate areas of concern.
- An evaluation will be conducted by the appropriate personnel.
- The parent(s) or legal guardian and evaluation personnel will have a meeting to talk about assessment results, special education eligibility, and service options.

## **Who may qualify for special education services?**

Individuals qualify for special education services when they have one or more of the following disabilities, according to federal and state criteria:

- Specific Learning Disability (SLD)
- Speech and Language Impairment (SLI)
- Orthopedic Impairment (OI)
- Other Health Impairment (OHI)
- Mental Retardation (MR)
- Emotional Disturbance (ED)
- Autism (AUT)
- Multiple Disabilities (MD)
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- Visual Impairment (VI)
- Deaf-Blindness (DB)

- Developmental Delay (DD)

## **What services are available?**

Each individual's need(s) will be addressed on an individualized basis by a team consisting of:

- public agency representative
- parent(s) or guardian
- evaluation personnel
- teacher(s)
- student

The team will review assessment information, discuss eligibility, identify area(s) of need for specialized instruction, including related services such as occupational therapy, physical therapy, or counseling, and develop a plan to meet the needs of the individual.

## **How much do services cost?**

All services are provided at no cost to the individual, parents, or guardian.

## **Where do I call?**

For more information call Pike County School System's, Special Education Department at 334-566-1850 ext. 81117.