Babies Can't Wait

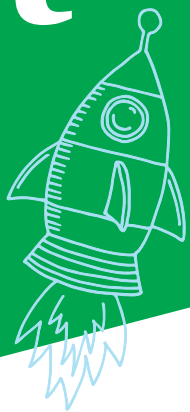
Transition@3



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

STEPS FOR SUCCESS

babies can't wait



TRANSITIONING OUT OF

Babies Can't Wait

Transition planning from the Babies Can't Wait (BCW) program may begin when your child is 24 months, but no later than 33 months.

Moving from one program to another is called transition. When your child transitions out of Babies Can't Wait you may feel excited, yet frightened as a parent. You are joyful because your child is growing and making improvements in his/her development. You have a feeling of pride because you know that you have given your child a great foundation to build upon. But it can be scary as a parent because you wonder, "What happens next?" Rest assured, Babies Can't Wait is here to help you in this process.

As your child nears age three, your Babies Can't Wait Service Coordinator will support you in exploring available community options to help your child continue to grow and develop.

These options may include:

- Preschool Intervention Programs
- Head Start
- Child care
- Private therapy
- Private preschool
- Other community activities such as: Library Story Hour, Mommy & Me Groups, local play groups



Your Service Coordinator will help develop a transition plan that will be part of the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). Your child's Service Coordinator will also notify the local school district of your child's upcoming third birthday in the event that your child may be eligible for services. The Babies Can't Wait program does not determine eligibility for school districts. Eligibility requirements for school district services are different from requirements for the Babies Can't Wait program. The school district may do testing to determine your child's eligibility for services in the school.

TO PLAN AHEAD
For Transition

Your family will have an opportunity to:

- Take a leadership role in the transition process.
- Discuss your questions and concerns about your child's transition out of BCW.
- Learn about community options and resources that are available within your community.
- Visit possible settings.
- Begin preparing your child by practicing skills he/she will need to be successful in the next setting.

Babies Can't Wait will:

- Provide your family with information about transition.
- Begin the process by developing the Transition Plan with you.
- Assist you in referring your child to the community options of your choice.
- Schedule a Transition Conference with your family, and the program(s) you have selected prior to your child's third birthday.



AT THE
Transition Conference

Your family will have an opportunity to:

- Share your hopes for your child.
- Share information about your child's strengths, abilities and challenges.
- Participate in the transition process at the level that feels comfortable to you.
- Ask questions about anything that is unclear such as:
  - How will the program decide if my child is eligible for services?
  - Who can we call if we have questions?
  - What kind of information & documents will be needed?

Babies Can't Wait will:

- Arrange this meeting and be there to support you as you discuss services that may be available to your child. The Transition Conference must occur at least 90 days prior to your child turning three.
- Share information about your child's progress in Babies Can't Wait, with your permission.
- Revise the Individualized Family Service Plan/Transition Plan as appropriate.
- Help you identify additional community resources and supports, as needed.

The programs represented will:

- Participate in the transition planning process.
- Explain the opportunities available through their program.
- Explain your child's rights and your rights as a parent.
- Discuss eligibility and enrollment requirements.
- Request your permission for any necessary evaluations.
- Answer questions that you may have.

The Transition Plan and Conference are steps in your family's journey and an opportunity to learn more about programs, eligibility requirements or application procedures.

Babies Can't Wait

dph.georgia.gov/Babies-Cant-Wait

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