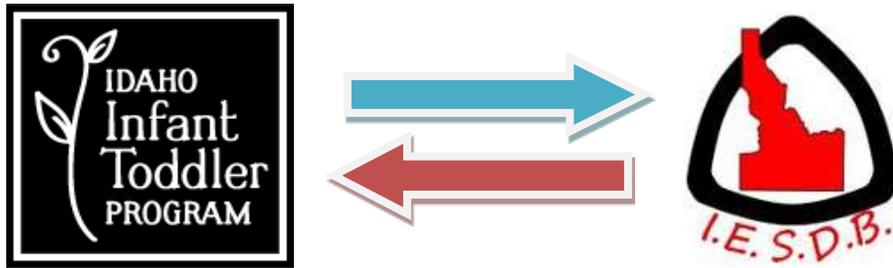


Benefits of joint services through the Idaho Infant Toddler Program and Idaho Services for the Deaf and the Blind (IESDB)

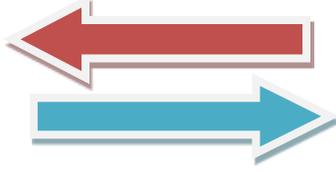


This paper outlines why joint services with both Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and Blind (IESDB) and the Idaho Infant Toddler Program makes great sense for your family and child.

- The Infant Toddler Program and IESDB are partner agencies. We work closely together to ensure both the developmental needs of your child and your informational needs are met.
- Children under the age of three who qualify for IESDB's programs also qualify for services through the Infant Toddler Program. A Service Coordinator (provided free of charge) will assist in writing a planning document known as the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) to coordinate your child's services. The Service Coordinator may help with applications for Medicaid, Children's Developmental Disability Services, or other programs, as needed.
- Through the Infant Toddler Program, you and your IESDB Educational Specialist are part of a team of early intervention providers including an Occupational Therapist, a Physical Therapist and a Developmental Therapist, a Speech and Language Pathologist, and a Service Coordinator. This allows you to access the knowledge and resources available through the team members.
- Interaction with your team may range from an occasional consultation to routine therapy visits. The frequency, amount, and type of services your family uses are identified in your IFSP and can be adjusted over time as your child grows and develops or your family's needs and priorities change.
- The Infant Toddler Program can help pay for hearing and vision evaluations and necessary assistive technology, including hearing aids if no other resources (like insurance or Medicaid) are available. Supports that are identified on your child's IFSP may be funded through the Infant Toddler Program or through coordination with other programs.
- Many families find it easier to enroll their children in the school district's developmental preschool if they are being served through the Infant Toddler Program. If you are interested in preschool or other community services after your child turns age three, the Service Coordinator and your IESDB Education Specialist will help with the referral and, if your child qualifies, provide a smooth transition to those program and enable your child to start services promptly at age three.



Benefits of joint services through Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind (IESDB) and the Idaho Infant Toddler Program



This paper outlines why joint services with both the Idaho Infant Toddler Program and Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and Blind (IESDB) makes great sense for your family and child.

- IESDB and the Idaho Infant Toddler Program are partner agencies. We work closely together to ensure both the developmental needs of your child and your informational needs are met.
- IESDB Educational Specialists are certified teachers with expertise in working with people with either hearing loss or vision loss. IESDB can provide support to families from birth to high school graduation, with transition services continuing to the age of 24.
- IESDB Educational Specialists participate with Infant Toddler staff on service delivery teams for children from birth through age three. A Service Coordinator (provided free of charge) will assist in writing a planning document known as the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) to coordinate your child's services. A Service Coordinator may help with applications for Medicaid, Children's Developmental Disability Services, or other programs, as needed.
- Based on the IFSP, the IESDB and Infant Toddler Program team will provide a primary interventionist for families. IESDB is a participating agency in the early intervention system and can be assigned access to your child's records.
- Eligibility includes permanent or fluctuating hearing loss in one or both ears, a qualifying vision loss, or Cortical Vision Impairment (CVI). IESDB Educational Specialists can provide specific support for your child's hearing or vision loss in your home or other community settings.
- Your IESDB Educational Specialist can help you or other team members with the following.
 - Parent lessons specific to the sensory disability
 - Support with equipment for the sensory disability
 - Information about community events, workshops, and classes
 - Experience in working with children with hearing or vision loss
 - Communication options for children with hearing loss
 - Strategies to improve visual tracking for children with vision loss
 - Technology for children with hearing or vision loss
 - Knowledge of development of children with hearing or vision loss
- IESDB Educational Specialists and Service Coordinators assist in the transition to pre-school services at the age of three and can provide continued support services through your child's school years.

