

# **Birth to Three Mandatory Referral Standard**

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The provision of early intervention services supports the Department's mission to promote and protect the health and safety of Idahoans. A key component of the promotion of the health and safety of Idahoans is the provision of services to ensure the healthy growth and development of all children. Research tells us that infants and toddlers raised in homes where abuse and neglect are present are at a significantly greater risk of developmental delays than children raised in homes without abuse and neglect.

Given that finding, on June 25, 2004, amendments were made to the Child Abuse and Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA), Public Law 108-36, Sec. 114, 1, xxi). Under these amendments each state is required to develop procedures for the referral of every child under the age of 3 years who is a victim of substantiated child abuse or neglect to early intervention services funded under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

IDHW is the lead agency and the Infant Toddler Program (ITP) is the lead program for children birth to three years old that qualify for early intervention services under federal education law (Part C of IDEA). From that lead position, the ITP coordinates a comprehensive, interagency, multi-disciplinary system that enables eligible children with developmental delays and their families to receive needed services and supports in a timely manner.

The Children and Family Services Standard for Mandatory Referral of Children, Birth to 3, for Infant Toddler Program (ITP) Services on All Child Abuse and Neglect Reports Dispositioned As Substantiated contains the following information:

- Standard information,
- CFS/ITP Referral flow chart, and
- Idaho Infant Toddler Program Referral and Application.