



# Developmental Screening in Child Care Programs: What Families Need to Know Fact Sheet

## Developmental Screening Requirement

**Starting on July 1, 2023**, by state law child cares will need to give families with children ages birth to five (not yet in kindergarten) the state accepted developmental and social emotional screening tools\*.

The screenings help:

- Find children who may need further testing for services and/or community resources at home and in the classroom.
- Support daily routines, activities, and learning at home and in the classroom.

**\*If your child already has an Individualized Family Service Plan through the Birth to Three Early Intervention Program (Child Watch) or an Individualized Education Program (IEP) through your local school district, screening is not required.**

## What does this mean?

Your child care will give you two screening tools:

- Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3)
- Ages and Stages Questionnaire-Social and Emotional (ASQ:SE-2)

## What are the tools?

The ASQ-3 and ASQ:SE-2 are surveys that use your knowledge of how your child plays, communicates, socializes with others, and uses their physical skills. Your answers to the questionnaires give you and your child care information about your child's growth, support daily routines, activities, and learning in their classroom and at home.

## What does this mean for me?

**You know your child the best!**

You will be asked to complete *both* the ASQ-3 and the ASQ:SE-2 **each year**.

- Your child care will give you a website link to access the questionnaires online.

- You can contact your child care if you need more help finding and/or completing the screenings.
- By completing the questionnaires, you will have a better understanding of your child's development and be given activities and community resources to support your child's growth.

## Can my child's teacher do the screening for me?

**Research shows that parents know their children best and are good at sharing their child's skills.**

As a last option, teachers can complete both screenings for your child if:

- The teacher completing the screening is with the child 20 hours per week or more.
- Written parent consent is given.

## What do the results tell me?

- If children are meeting developmental milestones on time.
- If there are some concerns that you and child care teacher should watch for.
- If further testing would help support your child's growth. *If the results show that further testing is recommended, there will be a direct contact for you to follow up with and schedule those.*

## How do I get the results?

Results will be emailed to the email you entered when completing the screenings within 2 weeks of completion.

**\*If you have any worries about your child's development and would like to make a for further testing, you have the right to do so at any time. An ASQ is not needed to be completed before you make any referral.**

## What's next?

**IMPORTANT: Children with an IFSP or IEP do not need to do this.**



# Developmental Screening in Child Care Programs: What Families Need to Know Fact Sheet

## If your child does not currently have an IFSP or IEP:

- You will get a letter from your child care center that explains the ASQ-3 and ASQ:SE-2 in more detail.
- This letter will also include a link to complete both screeners online.
  - When you begin filling out the screeners, make sure that your child's child care center name is entered in correctly when it asks for that.
  - If you need help, your child care provider can help you to fill out the questionnaires.

## To successfully complete your screenings:

- Give yourself enough of time to complete the screenings.
  - At least 20-30 minutes will be needed to complete both.
- Do them with your child in case they need to show you they can do something.
- Make it fun! These are based on playing with your child. This one-on-one time is a great way to connect with your child.

## Available resources for families:

1. Watch the I Am the Expert on My Child video to learn more about why screening is important here: <https://tinyurl.com/mr2ssh7u>
2. Check out the materials list here: <https://tinyurl.com/27xpha4e> to help you do the screenings.
3. Read the family quick guide here: <https://tinyurl.com/3cp6ru5f> to support you!
4. Watch First Lady Tracey Quillen Carney share an important message for families and providers about Developmental Screening in the First State here: <https://tinyurl.com/bdenfpxz>

For more information on screening from the Delaware Department of Education, visit our website at: [https://education.delaware.gov/families/birth-age-5/early\\_resources/screenings/](https://education.delaware.gov/families/birth-age-5/early_resources/screenings/)

OR  
scan our QR Code!

