

F. Transition to Preschool Programs (34 CFR 303.148)

The State of Missouri has developed the following policies and procedures to ensure a smooth and effective transition from Part C (First Steps) services to Part B (local school district) services for children with disabilities at age three.

Information about transition to Part B Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) or other appropriate services is shared with the family and explained at the initial IFSP meeting if the child is two (2) years of age or older. For a child participating in Part C First Steps prior to age two (2), this information is provided at the 6 month or annual IFSP meeting held closest to the child's second birthday.

The Part C Service Coordinator will inform the parent that consistent with IDEA requirements, First Steps is required to notify the local educational agency (LEA) in which the child lives that the child is approaching three (3) years of age and may be eligible for early childhood special education services under Part B of IDEA. This LEA notification includes limited directory information (child's name and birth date, and parent's name, address, and telephone number).

A parent may "opt out" of this LEA notification *in writing* by checking the box on the Parent Directory Information "Opt Out" form stating they do not want directory information provided to the local school district and by signing and returning the form to the Service Coordinator within 10 days. Otherwise, the directory information will be faxed or mailed to the local school district in which the child lives.