

Child Find Procedures

What is Child Find?

The purpose of Child Find is to identify, locate, and evaluate all children, in the district, birth through 21, who are suspected of, or have a disability or developmental delay that may result in a need for special education and related services. Senatobia Municipal Schools serves children ages 3 through 21 with identified special education needs.

Disability categories are: Autism spectrum disorder, Deafblind, Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Emotional and Behavioral Disorder, Intellectual Disabilities, Orthopedic Impairment, Other Health Impairment, Significant Developmental Delay, Specific Learning Disability, Speech/language Impairment, Traumatic Brain Injury, Visual Impairment.

How does Senatobia Municipal School District conduct Child Find activities?

SMSD completes Child Find responsibilities in a variety of ways. SMSD includes public announcements through local media, meetings with private school representatives, and through collaboration with other public agencies such as the Divisions of Mental Health, Family and Children's Services, and Community Health, parent requests, daycares, and through our [Response to Intervention \(RTI/SST\) process](#) in each school.

Preschool Children Procedures:

If you are aware of a preschooler, from 3 to 5 years old, who has or may have a disability and is in need of special education services, call the special education director at 662-301-5353.

Parent Requests Procedures:

If you suspect your child has a disability and is in need of special education services, please contact the school and express your concerns to the child's teacher and/or school administrator.

Private School Child Find Procedures:

Child find applies to children with disabilities parentally-placed in private schools. They are not entitled to a free appropriate public education (FAPE), but the district will provide services based on a proportionate share of federal funds. If a child is suspected of having a disability that is parentally placed in a private school or home school and needs evaluation for special education and eligibility consideration, please contact the special education department at 662-301-5353.

School Age Children Procedures:

If a child is already enrolled in SMSD schools is suspected of having a disability, in need of special education services, please contact the school, and express the concerns to the child's teacher and/or school administrator.

How can children be referred? A referral may be made by anyone who has a concern about a child's development. All referrals are considered confidential. The parent retains the right to refuse services. Children may be referred by any of the following: • Parents/legal guardians/foster parents • Other family members • Physicians/health care providers • Preschool programs • School system personnel • Community agencies • Private school personnel • Others who are concerned about a child's development.