



## **Developmental Disabilities Checklist**

\* **Note:** ANY Disability before the age of 22 should call to see if they qualify for services

- **Birth to 3 years old contact earlySteps** at 925-2426 or toll free 866-327-5978 to see if your child qualifies for their services. [www.earlysteps.dhh.louisiana.gov/](http://www.earlysteps.dhh.louisiana.gov/)
- During the earlySteps application process make it known that YOU ARE INTERESTED in EVERY SERVICE OFFERED! This gives your child a protective date for future services that have long waiting list.
- Be sure and keep a copy of your earlySteps application. Some services can have a 10 year waiting list and the date on the earlySteps application will be **VERY IMPORTANT** for the (NOW) New Opportunities Waiver and the Flexible Family Fund.
- Mail application certified if possible. As soon as you get approved for earlySteps and complete your individual family service plan (IFSP) you can call **Capital Area Human Services District (CAHSD) - Developmental Disabilities Services and Programs** to request an application for the Flexible Family Fund.
- At age 3 (2 years 9 months), your child's records will be transferred from earlySteps to **Capital Area Human Services District (CAHSD) - Developmental Disabilities Services and Programs**. If you have not received a letter from CAHSD by the time your child reaches 3 years and ONE MONTH, contact CAHSD ASAP at 925-1910 or toll free 1-866-768-8824 to make sure they have received your child's records and that the date is correct from your earlySteps application.
- Your information will also be forwarded to the school system with Pupil Appraisal. You will need copies of your child's current, signed and dated evaluation and (IEP) Individual Education Program for some services.

**Important:** *If you did not go through earlySteps and the disability happened before the age of 22, the single point of entry for services is CAHSD and you should call them.*

**Capital Area Human Services District  
925-1910 or toll-free 800-768-8824**

<http://www.cahsd.org/clientsandfamilies/services/developmental.html>

### **Developmental Disabilities Services and Programs**

- **New Opportunities Waiver (NOW)** – CAHSD processes the NOW application. NOW waiver provides personal care attendants, home and vehicle modifications and more. After the application is processed by CAHSD, Your child's name will be placed on the NOW registry that is maintained by *Statistical Resources*. We recommend calling *Statistical Resources* every year to verify your child's name is still on the registry. **800-364-7828**
- **Family Support** – can request assistance with things such as but not limited to diapers/respite
- **Behavioral Support**-provides support to the family/individual with assessments and behavior plans
- **Supports Waiver**- 18 and older without a Waiver can attend a dayhab and get some respite
- **Group Home Placement**-if someone needs to be placed in a group home
- **Residential Options Waiver**-for individuals who want to move out of a residential setting
- **Flexible Family Fund** (formally called Cash Subsidy) – if you qualify it provides a \$258 monthly stipend. You will need to provide a copy of the child's **current, signed and dated** Individual Education Program (IEP) from the child's school every year. It is critical that you request this service at the initial contact with CAHSD because this process places the child on a separate waiting list for this service.

**Important:** *If the child sustained a traumatic head or spinal cord injury you may also be eligible for the Louisiana Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund. The injury has to be from an accident not from birth and must have occurred in Louisiana. For more details you can contact the program at 877-456-1146.*

## **Other services your child may be eligible for while waiting**

- **SSI** - Supplemental Security Income 800-772-1213
- **Medicaid** –If eligible for Medicaid, you may qualify for EPSDT Personal Care Services. Contact Medicaid at 888-342-6207. *\*Be certain to ask about the **Family Opportunity Act** if you did not qualify because of income.*
- **Daycare centers for children with significant disabilities in Region 2**  
Transportation is available so call both centers for more details.  
Pediatric Health Choice-birth to 21 years 2355 Drusilla Lane, Baton Rouge, La 70809 Phone 231-5880  
Pediatric Healthcare for Kids –birth to 8 years 8894 Airline Highway, Baton Rouge, La 70815  
Phone 364-3630

## **Overview**

### **Important phone numbers**

- **earlySteps** birth to three years old 925-2426 toll free 866-327-5978
- **Capital Area Human Services District** ages 3 to 22 925-1910  
toll free 800-768-8824
- **Statistical Resources Inc.** NOW waiver registry 800-364-7828
- **Louisiana Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund** *The injury has to be from an accident not from birth and must have occurred in Louisiana.* 877-456-1146

### **Important Reminders**

- Keep copies of all paperwork.
- Keep all your paperwork in one place like a folder, book or bag.
- Keep notes of who you spoke with and what was said.
- When you have to mail in documents/paperwork try to mail it certified so you will have proof it was sent and received.
- Check with the agency about hand-delivery because some do require a postmark date from the post office.
- If your name comes up for the NOW Waiver and you feel you do not want services at that time you need to send a letter stating you want to go inactive. This will keep your name on the registry should you need it in the future.
- Open mail immediately from agencies like Capital Area Human Services District (CAHSD), Office of citizens with developmental disabilities (OCDD), Statistical Resources (SRI) and LA Dept. Of Health and Hospitals (DHH).
- Always notify the agencies of any changes in your address or phone numbers.



**For more information contact**  
**Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge**  
**216-7474 toll free 866-216-7474**  
**[www.fhfgbr.org](http://www.fhfgbr.org)**