



Pernet Family Health Service, Inc.
237 Millbury Street, Worcester, MA 01610-2177
Tel: (508) 755-1228 - Fax: (508) 797-3477
www.pernetfamilyhealth.org - info@pernetfamilyhealth.org

Who is eligible for Pernet's Early Intervention?

Any child up to three years of age who lives in the Worcester area may be eligible for EI. The child's family may be eligible for EI services if the child:

- Is not reaching age-appropriate milestones in one or more areas of development.
- Is diagnosed with a physical, emotional, or cognitive condition that may result in a developmental delay.
- Is at risk for developmental delay due to various biological and/or environmental factors.

How can a child and family become involved with Pernet's Early Intervention?

The process is simple. Anyone (a parent, doctor, caregiver, teacher, or friend) can make a referral by calling **Pernet Early Intervention program** at 508-755-1228 or filling out this [form](#). Services do not require a prescription. Referrals are made directly to Pernet's certified Early Intervention program.

What happens after a referral is made to Pernet's EI?

A Pernet Early Intervention team will conduct a developmental assessment with the child and family to determine eligibility. This assessment will focus on specific areas of child development, including areas related to cognitive, language, motor, social, emotional, behavioral, and self-help skills. If the child is eligible, an Individualized Family Service Plan is written based on the individual needs of the child and family. EI team begins working with the child and family within 45 days of referral.

Who provides EI services?

Services are provided by our professional and dedicated EI team, which includes the child's family. Depending on the child's needs, an EI team may also include an educator, physical therapist, speech-language pathologist, psychologist, occupational therapist, social worker, nurse, and other specialty service providers. The child's medical provider is considered a valuable member of this team.



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Where and how are services provided?

A Pernet Early Intervention team serves the child and family in what are called "natural environment", for example, in family homes, childcare centers, community play groups, or libraries. Serving children in natural environments helps them to participate more easily in their everyday activities and with their peers.

Does my child meet the Developmental Milestones for his/her age?

A set of functional skills or age-specific tasks that most children can do at a certain age range. Your pediatrician uses milestones to help check how your child is developing. Although each milestone has an age level, the actual age when a normally developing child reaches that milestone can vary quite a bit. Every child is unique! If your child is delayed, you should start intervention as early as possible so your child can make the best possible progress. When thinking about normal development, think about the developing skills like:

- **Gross motor:** using large groups of muscles to sit, stand, walk, run, etc., keeping balance, and changing positions.
- **Fine motor:** using hands to be able to eat, draw, dress, play, write, and do many other things.
- **Language:** speaking, using body language and gestures, communicating, and understanding what others say.
- **Cognitive:** Thinking skills: including learning, understanding, problem-solving, reasoning, and remembering.
- **Social:** Interacting with others, having relationships with family, friends, and teachers, cooperating, and responding to the feelings of others.

If you have a concern in one of the following areas of development, you should refer your child for a developmental evaluation by calling 508-755-1228.