

Child Find: *A Search for ALL Children with Disabilities Ages Birth through 21*

Child Find is the process of identifying, locating, and evaluating children with disabilities who may be in need of special education and related services. Both State and Local Educational Agencies are given the responsibility by federal and state laws to conduct child find activities so that children who need special services have the opportunity to receive these services.

For ages Birth to 3 – an established condition known to result in a delay or documented developmental delay.

For ages 3-21 – identification in one or more of the following conditions: autism; developmental delay; deaf-blindness; hearing impairment, including deafness; intellectual disabilities; multiple disabilities; orthopedic impairment; other health impairment; emotional disturbance; specific learning disability; speech or language impairment; traumatic brain injury; and/or visual impairment, including blindness.

If a need is identified, the child can begin receiving the appropriate special education and related services identified. In addition, though a child may not be eligible for special education or related services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, he or she may qualify for Section 504 services, accommodations, and/or modifications if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity which causes the student's ability to access the school environment or school activities to be substantially limited. Free assessments are available to families to determine whether or not a disability exists.

For more information or to request an evaluation, please contact Joseph Petrarca, Director, Student Services, at 330.626.4900, extension 1020, or via email at jpetrarca@scsrockets.org.