

Public Notice: Child Find

(Required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education standards)

Diamond R-IV is required to locate, evaluate, and identify all children with disabilities within our district boundaries, from **birth through age 21**, who may be in need of special education and related services.

This includes children who are:

- Attending public, private, parochial, or home schools.
- Highly mobile, migrating, or experiencing homelessness.
- Suspected of having a disability, even if they are advancing from grade to grade.

Disability Categories

Special education and related services are available to eligible children under the following disability categories:

- Autism
- Deaf-Blindness
- Developmental Delay (Ages 3–5)
- Emotional Disturbance
- Hearing Impairment / Deafness
- Intellectual Disability
- Multiple Disabilities
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Other Health Impairment (e.g., ADHD, medical conditions)
- Specific Learning Disability
- Speech or Language Impairment
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Visual Impairment / Blindness

Age Groups and Referral Resources

Infants and Toddlers (Birth through Age 2)

If you have concerns about the development of an infant or toddler under the age of 3, services are coordinated through Missouri's early intervention system, **First Steps**. First Steps provides services to families with children who have delayed development or diagnosed medical conditions associated with developmental delays.

- **To make a referral:** Contact Missouri First Steps at **1-866-583-2392** or visit the Missouri First Steps Website.

Preschool through School-Age Children (Ages 3 through 21)

The school district offers free developmental screenings and comprehensive evaluations to determine if children ages 3 to 21 meet eligibility criteria for special education services.

- **Preschool-Age (3–5):** If you suspect your preschool-aged child has a developmental delay or disability, please contact our Special Education Office to schedule an appointment.
- **School-Age (K–12):** If your child is enrolled in a public, private, parochial, or home school within our boundaries and you suspect a disability, please contact your child's building **[Principal or Special Education Coordinator]**.

Confidentiality of Information

All information gathered during the Child Find process is strictly confidential. The district maintains data systems to protect the privacy of personally identifiable information in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (**FERPA**) and state compliance regulations. The district collects an annual census of children with disabilities including the child's name, parent/guardian details, birthdate, and nature of the suspected disability.

Contact Us

If you know of a child who may have a disability, or if you would like to request more information, please reach out to our Special Services department:

- **Director of Special Education:** Becky Miller
- **Office Address:** 401 S. Main Diamond, MO 64840

- **Phone Number:** 417-325-5186 EX. 5002
 - **Email:** rmiller2@diamondwildcats.org
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