

SPP Indicator

#12

Transition

3 State Performance Plan Indicators that affect Preschool Programs directly.

SPP INDICATOR 6: Percent of preschool children with IEPs who received special education and related services in setting with typically developing peers (e.g., early childhood settings, home, and part-time early childhood/part-time early childhood special education settings)

SPP INDICATOR 7: Percent of preschool children with IEPs who demonstrate improved

- a. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships);
- b. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/communication and early literacy); and
- c. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

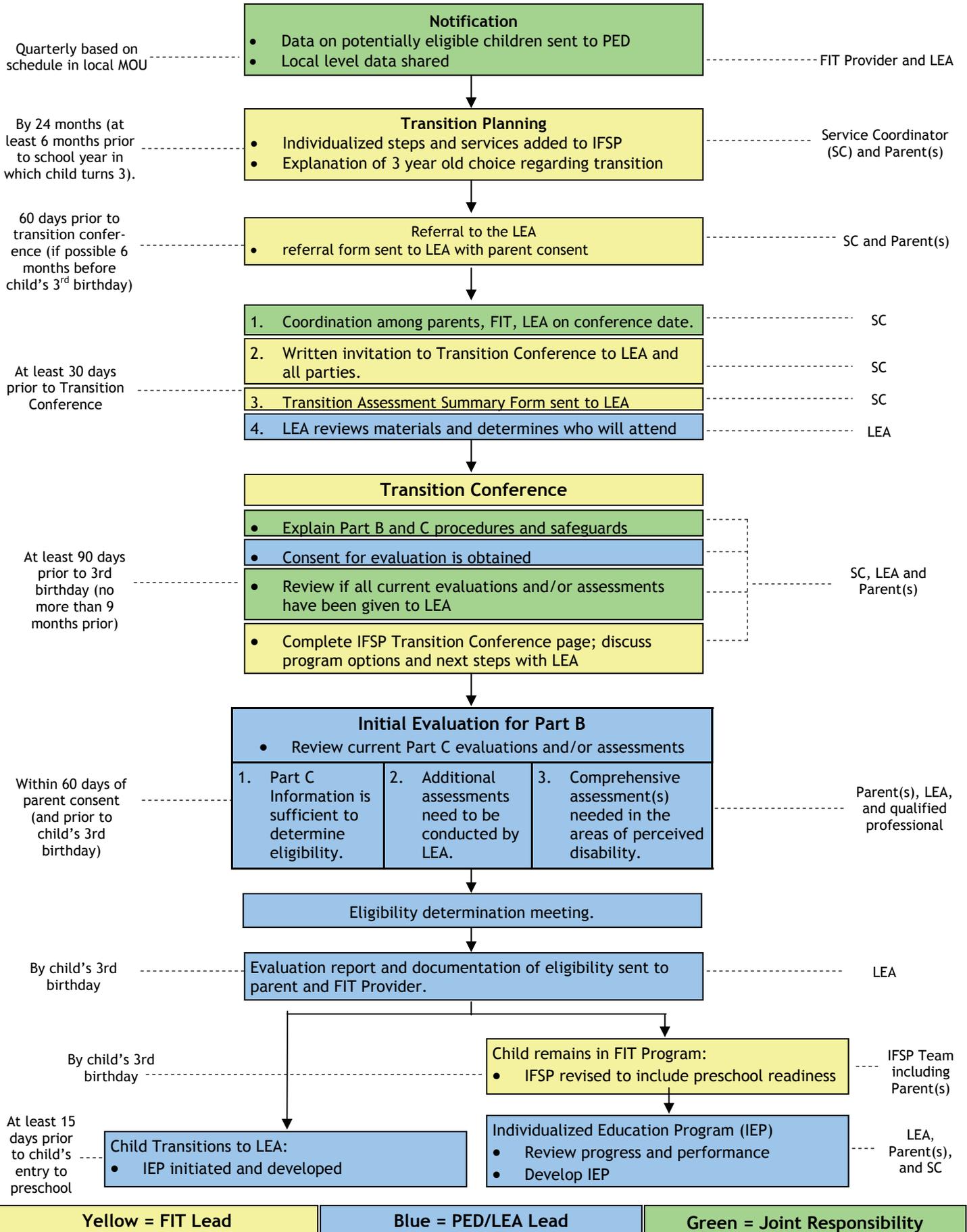
SPP INDICATOR 12: Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays.

The complete State Performance Plan can be viewed online at the SEB website.

Steps for Early Childhood Transition

Timeline

People Involved



Yellow = FIT Lead

Blue = PED/LEA Lead

Green = Joint Responsibility



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BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

June 30, 2004

Memorandum

TO: Special Education Directors

FROM: Sam Howarth
State Director of Special Education

RE: Services to Two Year Olds

We have been asked to clarify the responsibility of school districts to serve children with disabilities before their third birthday.

NMSA 1978, Sec. 22-13-5 (as amended by Chapter 27, N.M. Laws 2004) says it is up to the parents.

If a child receiving services in the department of health's family, infant, toddler program has his third birthday during the school year, the child's parents shall have the option of having the child complete the school year in the family, infant, toddler program or enrolling the child in the public school's preschool program.

This section of statute goes on to clarify that those two-year olds who are eligible under Part B criteria (regardless of service under Part C) may receive services from the beginning of the school year when they turn three.

A child with a disability who enrolls in the public school's preschool program and who has his third birthday during a school year may receive special education and related services from the beginning of that school year.

The statutory use of "may" rather than "shall" derives from a previous sentence in this section, stating that parents are not required to enroll preschoolers with disabilities in school. The statutory use of

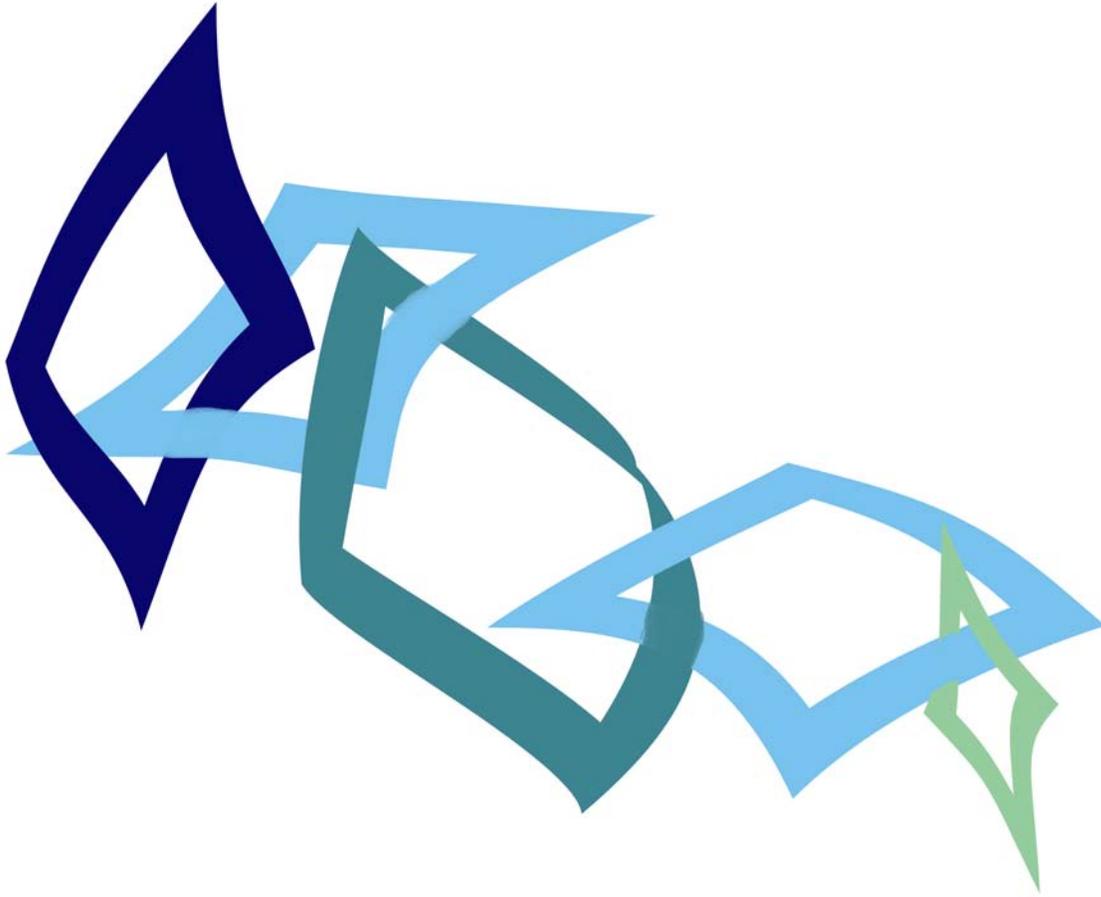
“may” rather than “shall” does not mean that districts have the option to decline service requested by parents of eligible two year olds.

This responsibility to serve eligible two year olds during the year when they turn three, at the parent’s discretion, is reinforced by NMSA 1978, Sec. 22-8-2 (as amended by Chapter 27, N.M. Laws 2004) that provides state funding for these students, defined as qualified students.

M. “qualified student” means a public school student who:...(4) is at least three years of age at any time during the school year and is receiving special education services pursuant to regulation...

Preschool students with disabilities generate approximately \$8000 per student through the state equalization guarantee (funding formula).

Please contact Harriet Forman, our preschool consultant, if you have any questions or comments about this memo. You can reach Ms. Forman at 827-6541.



Transition Initiative Website via the Center for Development and Disability website

<http://cdd.unm.edu/ecspd/index.htm>

Resource documents on entire process of transition guidance

http://cdd.unm.edu/ecspd/resources/pdfs/ECT/Transition%20Documents/7_guidance_doc.pdf

Flow Chart for transition process at a glance

http://cdd.unm.edu/ecspd/resources/pdfs/ECT/Transition%20Documents/flow-chart_1_10.pdf