

CELEBRATE EACH NEXT STEP: DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENINGS FOR EVERY CHILD

Because every child deserves the best possible start

The first years of a child's life are a time of tremendous growth—physical, intellectual, social, and emotional. From birth, children reach developmental milestones as they grow, **delighting us with their first smile, first word, first step.**



Pediatricians recommend all children be screened at every well-child visit between birth and age three, or any time there is a concern.



Motor Skills

Hand-eye coordination makes mealtime fun.



Problem Solving

Learning to stack blocks can be a marker of success.

Social & Emotional

Knowing how to play well with others is a reason to celebrate.



Speech & Language

Your baby learning to speak is cause for conversation.



Getting help early makes a big difference!

With 85 percent of a child's brain developed by age three, it is critical for parents and caregivers to engage in and stay informed about their child's development.

Developmental screenings are critical for tracking important milestones and detection and treatment of developmental risks or delays. They help all children get the best possible start in life. Screenings can happen during a medical visit or in an early childhood setting.

Parents or caregivers answer simple questions about their child's growth and interactions. If there is a concern about a child not reaching a milestone, families can be referred to other supports and services, such as those available through the Early Intervention Bureau at the Illinois Department of Human Services.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends all children be screened routinely between birth and age three.



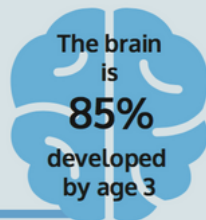
9 months



18 months



24-30 months



Illinois kids deserve more support

- ⊗ Just over half of children from birth to age 3 enrolled in the state's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and Medicaid in 2014 were receiving recommended screens.
- ⊗ Screening information from commercial insurance plans not in CHIP and Medicaid is not collected, and there is no comprehensive way to know how many children in Illinois have received a screening.
- ⊗ The Illinois Early Intervention served an average of almost 21,000 children each month in 2014, or about 4% of the infant/toddler population. But many more children who would benefit from services have not been identified or even referred for evaluation.

1 in 10 children
may face medical
conditions or
challenges which
can be detected
and treated early.

It's time for Illinois to:

- ✓ Promote awareness and use of developmental screenings
- ✓ Determine how many children are receiving the screenings
- ✓ Monitor whether those identified with possible delays in development are receiving appropriate referrals for follow-up assessments and care

When possible delays are detected early on and timely treatment is provided, children are better prepared for school and the lifetime that awaits them.

For more information about developmental milestones and Early Intervention, go to bit.ly/UpstreamHealth or <http://bit.ly/EI-IL>