What areas are covered during a Child Find Screening?
Your child’s screening will address the following areas of development:

- Cognitive
- Communication
- Social-Emotional
- Adaptive Behavior
- Gross/Fine Motor Skills
- Vision/Hearing

Screenings are scheduled on Wednesday Mornings at the following location:

Pendergast Community Center
10550 W. Mariposa St.
Phoenix, AZ 85037

** In the event that an in-person screening cannot be held by the district, screening forms can be mailed home to families.

Screening are held approximately once per month

How long does a screening take to complete?

Screenings generally take about an hour to complete; however, there may be additional paperwork to sign after your child is finished. Please plan for at least 1-2 hours.

- Screenings are scheduled for children ages 2:10-5, who have not entered Kindergarten
- If you have concerns about a younger child (Birth to 2:9 years), please contact The Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) at 1-800-352-8168 or online at www.azdes.gov.
- For an older child contact the public school in your neighborhood or where the child is enrolled.

To Schedule a Screening, Contact Us at:

Pendergast Community Center
Developmental Assessment Team
10550 W. Mariposa St.
Phoenix, AZ 85037

Phone: 623-772-2372
623-772-2370
What is Child Find?

Child find is a component of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA '04) that requires states to locate, identify, and evaluate all children with disabilities, aged birth through 21, who are in need of early intervention or special education services. This includes children who are highly mobile, such as migrant or homeless children, children suspected of having a disability even though they are advancing from grade to grade, private school students, and homeschool students. The Arizona initiative for child find is referred to as AZ FIND.

What is a Child Find Screening?

A screening is a series of short tests and professional observations in various developmental areas. Children who are unable to pass one or more areas of the screening may have a developmental delay in those areas. The screening, however, is not enough to determine that the child is delayed, it is only designed to let us know if we need to do further investigation into the child’s development.

Your child may work with one or more specialists during his/her screening including: a school nurse, special education teacher, school psychologist, speech language pathologist, occupational therapist, and/or physical therapist.

As a Parent, what is expected of me during the screening?

At the screening, you will have the opportunity to sit with your child and watch while the screening is done. We ask that you please do not help the child with the answers in any way.

You will also be asked to fill out various paperwork as part of the screening, including a Developmental History form and Parent Questionnaire. If you do not know the answers to some of the questions, it is helpful if you try to give your best estimate or guess, rather than leave the question blank.

The main purpose of the questionnaire is to inform us of any concerns you may already have about your child’s development. This ensures that we address these concerns and gives us important information which we can use in evaluating the results of your child’s screening.

Generally, after each professional has screened your child, s/he will discuss his/her observations with you. At that time you will also have an opportunity to discuss any concerns you may have about your child’s development.

What am I required to bring to the Child Find Screening?

You will need to bring the following documentation in order for your child to participate in the child find screening:

♦ Proof of residence (i.e., gas, water, electric bill)
♦ The child’s birth certificate OR
♦ Notice to Provider and/or any other court ordered guardianship paperwork if you are not the biological parent
♦ Any Outside agency reports (e.g., speech evaluations, psychological reports, hearing/vision reports, etc.) if applicable.

What should I tell my child about the process?

We suggest that you say you are taking your child to play some games that will help everyone learn more about him or her. Try to avoid the word "test" and, more importantly, try to convey to the child that it will be fun. Rarely will a screening be stressful for a child. Most children enjoy the screening activities, which we refer to as "games" or "jobs."

At times, a child may need more time to "warm up" and become comfortable. On some occasions, a child is not able to complete the screening. If this happens with your child, we will talk with you to determine what to do next.