



# First Steps Services



First Steps maintains contracts with a variety of service specialist(s) to meet the needs of children and families. These include:

- Audiologist
- Developmental Interventionist
- Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor
- Marriage and Family Therapist
- Nutritionist and Registered Dietitian
- Nurse, RN
- Nurse, LPN
- Occupational Therapist
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Orientation and Mobility Specialist
- Physical Therapist
- Physical Therapy Assistant
- Psychologist
- Social Worker
- Speech Language Pathologist
- Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Teacher of the Visually Impaired

## Types of Early Intervention Services

The professionals listed above perform a variety of services in First Steps. These can include:

***Assistive Technology*** services, which directly assist a child with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device. An assistive technology device is any item, piece of equipment or product system, whether acquired commercially, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain or improve the functional capabilities of children with disabilities.

***Developmental Intervention*** services that address the cognitive development and unique learning strengths and needs of the child with a disability. This service is designed to teach the child the skills they need to be as independent as possible.

***Family Education*** services are provided, as appropriate, by social workers, psychologists, licensed professional clinical counselors, and other qualified personnel to assist the family in understanding the special needs of the child and how the family can enhance the child's development through daily routines in the home environment.

***Health Services*** that are necessary to enable the child to benefit from other early intervention services during the child's eligibility for First Steps. A nurse provides these services.



**Nutrition Services** that include the development and monitoring of appropriate plans to address the nutritional needs of the child. A nutritionist or dietitian provides these services.

**Occupational Therapy** services address the functional needs of a child related to adaptive development, adaptive behavior and play, as well as sensory, motor, and postural development. These services are designed to improve the child's functional ability to perform tasks in home and community settings.

**Physical Therapy** services address the assessment of gross motor skills and disorders of movement and posture and treat through a variety of modalities. This service is designed to promote effective environmental adaptations.

**Psychological Services** address the psychological development of a child through assessment and obtaining, integrating, and interpreting information about the child's behavior, and child and family conditions related to learning, mental health and development of the child.

**Speech Language** services address speech and/or language development through identification and treatment of children with communicative or oral motor disorder. Specific delays and disorders may include articulation, receptive and expressive language, and fluency and voice problems.

**Transportation** includes reimbursement for the cost of travel necessary to enable a child and family to participate in and receive First Step services.

