

## CHILD FIND NOTICE

The Hooker Public School District and surrounding school districts have an ongoing CHILD FIND process. The purpose of the Child Find Process is to find any child or youth that may have a disability that requires special education services, in order to provide them with a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). Child Find is a component of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). It is a continuous process of public awareness activities. Screening and evaluation are designed to locate, identify, and evaluate children between the ages of three years and twenty-one years of age who may need special education and related services. All children with disabilities residing in the Hooker Public School District, whether attending public or private schools, should be identified, located, and evaluated. This service is provided to children with suspected disabilities, free of charge

This notice is to inform parents of the child identification, location, screening, and evaluation activities to be conducted throughout the year by the Hooker Public School (HPS) in coordination with the Oklahoma State Department of Education and in accordance with the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. HPS maintains an ongoing process to locate, identify, and evaluate any child, age 3 years to 21 years of age, suspected of having a disability, who may need special education services, regardless of the severity of the disability or whether the child is advancing from grade to grade. HPS's Child Find process includes coordinating with other agencies and promoting public awareness for all children within the district's geographical boundaries including students who are:

- Enrolled in public school;
- Enrolled in charter schools, virtual charter schools, and alternative schools;
- Enrolled in home school;
- Enrolled in education programs in correctional facilities located in the LEA;
- Enrolled in state institutions;
- Not enrolled in elementary or secondary school, including children ages 3 years to 5 years of age;
- Highly mobile students, such as migrant and homeless as defined by the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act; and
- Wards of the state.

Three components of the Child Find process include:

1. **Locating** students who may have disabilities. This involves working with other agencies and informing the general public of available special education services and special education referral process.
2. **Identifying** students who may have disabilities. This could include screenings or Coordinated Early Intervention Services (CEIS). These services are provided to students who need additional academic and/or behavioral supports to succeed in the school environment. This may include general education interventions, accommodations, and/or strategies.

3. **Evaluating** students who may have disabilities. This is achieved through a comprehensive evaluation. The comprehensive evaluation is completed to determine whether a student is eligible for special education services under IDEA.

Children and youth with a disability means (as defined by the *Oklahoma State Policy and Procedures for Special Education in Oklahoma*) those who have hearing impairments, vision impairments, an emotional disturbance, deafness, blindness (or both), specific learning disabilities, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, speech and/or language impairments, physical disabilities, autism, or traumatic brain injuries. In addition, children and youth with a disability which substantially limits a major life activity may receive modifications and accommodations to allow them access to an appropriate education (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, as amended).

Parents, relatives, private agency employees, and concerned citizens are encouraged to help the Hooker Public School District and the surrounding school districts find any infant, toddler, child, or youth who may have a disability and need special education and/or related services. The school district will need to know the name, age, date of birth of the child or youth, and also the name, address, and telephone number of the child's parents or guardians. The parents or guardians need to inform the district of the possible disability and any other relative information to help determine if special education services are needed.

For more information, contact:

Fidel Velasquez  
Assistant Principal/Special Education Administrator  
Hooker Public Schools: (580)652-2516  
[fvelasquez@hookerpublicschools.net](mailto:fvelasquez@hookerpublicschools.net)

or

Todd Kerr  
Superintendent of Schools  
Hooker Public Schools: (580)652-2162  
[tkerr@hookerpublicschools.net](mailto:tkerr@hookerpublicschools.net)

## What is Project Child Find?

**All children deserve a chance to reach their full potential. Project Child Find, a service provided by Hooker Public Schools, is a service to assist families of children who may have special needs. The service is provided to ensure that every child has a chance.**



For more information about Project Child Find contact:

Hooker Public Schools  
(580)652-2516  
(580)652-2162

### PURPOSE

The Hooker Public School District is dedicated to the equality of children and adults with disabilities. Our mission is to train, inform, educate and support parents, families, professionals and consumers in building partnerships that meet the needs of children and youth with the full range of disabilities ages three through twenty-one.



HOOKER PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
HOME OF THE BULLDOGS

## HPS Project Child Find

(580)652-2516  
(580)652-2162

**We Are Here  
To Help!**



Some children are born with physical or mental conditions that can interfere with their growth and development. Luckily, many problems can be minimized or overcome if help is pursued early. Project Child Find connects children from age 3 through age 21 with services tailored to the special needs of the individual.

- **Free Screenings provided by local Sooner Start offices for children under the age of 3**
- **Free screenings provided by Hooker Public Schools**



**All needed screenings and evaluations are provided free of charge.**

**Contact:**

**Hooker Public Schools  
(580)652-2162  
(580)652-2516**



If there appears to be a delay in an area of your child's development, you may seek assistance from Hooker Public Schools, Project Child Find. Even if a child is not yet school age, he or she may benefit from screening and/or evaluation.

If any of the items below seem to apply to any child that you know, please call Hooker Public Schools to discuss your concerns.

- Has difficulty turning over.
- Has difficulty sitting-up alone.
- Has difficulty crawling.
- Often bumps into objects or poor balance/coordination.
- Does not respond to affection.
- Does not talk or limited vocabulary.
- Cannot ride a tricycle or pedal toy.
- Cannot feed self.
- Does not respond to own name.
- Does not play well with others.
- Cannot name family members.
- Cannot put toys/materials away.
- Does not follow simple commands.
- Not successful in school.