

Guidance for Virtual Screening and Funding by Legislative Change 2023

Updated 7/10/2026

Legislative changes

Beginning July 1, 2023, Early Childhood Screening programs will provide virtual developmental screening upon request to families with immunocompromised health or other health concerns (Minnesota Statutes 142D.091). Districts will receive an increase of 30% in state aid for each child screened effective July 1, 2023 (Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 142D.093).

What does this mean for Early Childhood Screening programs?

- Early Childhood Screening programs will provide virtual developmental screening for parents/guardians who make a request based on their or their child's immunocompromised health or other health status.
- Parents/guardians do not need to report their or their family member's diagnosis.
- Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) recommend the purchase of parent report developmental screening tool(s) listed with publisher contacts on [Minnesota Department of Health Recommended Screening Instruments](#). For example, a parent report tool for developmental screening of cognitive, speech, language, fine and gross motor development includes the Ages and Stages Questionnaire 3 (ASQ:3). Observational tools are not valid or possible for virtual screenings (Brigance III, Battelle 3, MPSI-R, DIAL-4).
- The district screening program or the Early Childhood Special Education program may have previously purchased the ASQ:3, technical manual and user guide.
- Districts will continue to use the Ages and Stages Questionnaire Social-Emotional - 2 (ASQ:SE-2) for social emotional screening.
- The other components of screening may be offered through completion of immunization review, health care coverage review, vision/hearing history risk assessments and referral, and parent report of height and weight. A copy of a clinic vision and hearing screening, if done within the previous 12 months, may be requested. Children may also be referred to their health care provider for vision/hearing screening if it has not been completed by the clinic in the previous 12 months.
- Copies of screenings completed by clinics and Head Start would meet the screening requirement if developmental, social emotional, vision, hearing, immunizations and other components are included.
- MARSS PS record is assigned for these screenings by other providers using the registration form found on the [DCYF Early Childhood Screening](#) webpage under Administrative Forms.

- Parents may conscientiously object, decline, or opt out of screening and a MARSS PS record is assigned.
- District websites should be updated to reflect the change.

Training: ASQ:3 and ASQ:SE-2

- Quarterly ASQ:3 and ASQ:SE-2 live virtual training information for districts and charters is found on the [DCYF Early Learning Events Calendar](#). The Minnesota Department of Health delivers the same training for Family Home Visiting and Follow Along Program staff. The Department of Human Services delivers the same training for Child Welfare staff.
- Due to copyright, the ASQ trainings may not be recorded or posted.
- Other developmental and social emotional screening training including communication best practices, required early childhood screening components, in-reach and program administration are provided three times annually and posted to the [DCYF Early Learning Events Calendar](#).
- ASQ live trainings may also be arranged through Brookes Publishing for a fee, or through a purchased DVD. The ASQ User Guides also contain information needed to complete the screenings. Find publisher contact information on the [Minnesota Department of Health Recommended Screening Instruments](#) webpage.

Documentation

The Summary form found on [DCYF district screening](#) has been updated to reflect this change of using ASQ:3 for virtual screening. This form is also shared with the parent.

Funding increase

Districts receive the following state aid (Fund 4) for each child screened by age:

- Prior to kindergarten: Age 3 = \$98.00
- Prior to kindergarten: Age 4 = \$65.00
- Prior to kindergarten: Age 5 or 6 = \$52.00
- Within first 30 calendar days of kindergarten: Ages 4–7 years = \$39.00