

Child Search

What is Child Search?

Child Search is a part of the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, which mandates local school districts to identify children who may have special needs. Child Search aims to identify children who may have difficulty learning, present with a disability or present with exceptional skills that are beyond their age level and may qualify for gifted services. NOLA Public Schools' Child Search Office assumes the responsibility for locating and evaluating children, ages 3-5 years, in Orleans Parish. Please contact ecs@opsb.us.

What services are available?

The Child Search Office is available to help a child who has a learning problem or disability, as well as identify children who may qualify for gifted services upon entry into school. With parental permission, services could include:

- Free screening to determine if the child should be evaluated or linked with other community agencies.
- If screening indicates, an evaluation is conducted to see what type of services the child may need.
- If the evaluation finds the child to need services, services may include free special education instruction, speech services, occupational therapy services, physical therapy services, school health and school nurse services, and/or social work services.

Child Search

Our Child Search Office conducts screenings and/or multidisciplinary evaluations for children, ages 3-5, suspected of having a disability, as well as children who may qualify for gifted services. This service is provided to all children within Orleans Parish, at no cost to the family. To access the Child Search Scheduling System, please click the button below, or call 504-304-4988 to schedule an appointment.

Administrative Reviews of Private Evaluations

If your child has a current evaluation (within one year of today's date) from a private vendor, please bring a copy of the complete evaluation to your child's school and submit to the Exceptional Student Services Lead or to the secretary of the school site.