

## The Process

### Step 1 - Referral

Referrals for assessment under Child Find need to be in writing. School staff. Staff can assist you in developing the referral if you need, and they may want to meet with you to understand the nature of the concern.

### Step 2 - Review

For school age students, typically a Student Study Team meeting is convened to review the referral and your concerns. At this meeting, school staff will talk with you to gather information about your concerns for your child and may brainstorm resources and strategies to help.

### Step 3 - Assessment

If assessment is appropriate and written consent is provided, your child will be tested to determine if he/she has a disability and is eligible for Special Education and/or related services. An Individual Education Program (IEP) team meeting will be held with you to review the assessment.

### Step 4 - IEP Team

If appropriate, the team will develop an IEP Plan based upon your child's educational needs. All services are provided in the least restrictive environment (LRE) and these will be discussed and determined at the meeting.

## Contact Your Local School District

Bangor Union Elementary	(530) 679-2434
Butte County Office of Ed	(530) 532-5740
Biggs Unified	(530) 868-1281
Chico Unified	(530) 891-3000
Durham Unified	(530) 895-4675
Golden Feather Union	(530) 533-3833
Gridley Unified	(530) 846-4721
Manzanita Elementary	(530) 846-5594
Oroville City Elementary	(530) 532-3000
Oroville Union High	(530) 538-2300
Palermo Union	(530) 533-4842
Paradise Unified	(530) 872-6400
Pioneer Union	(530) 589-1633
Thermalito Union	(530) 538-2900

### More Questions?

Contact Butte County SELPA

[selpasupport@bcoe.org](mailto:selpasupport@bcoe.org)

(530) 532-5621

[www.buttecountyselpa.org](http://www.buttecountyselpa.org)



## What is Child Find?

Locating and Serving  
Children with Disabilities







## What is Child Find?

Child Find is part of the federal law called the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). It's a legal requirement that mandates school districts identify, locate and evaluate all children with disabilities, regardless of the severity. The Child Find mandate applies to all children (birth through age 21) who reside within a State, including children who attend private schools and public schools, highly mobile children, migrant children, homeless children, and children who are wards of the state.

School districts are required to have a process for identifying and evaluating children who may need special education or related services. If it is determined that the disability interferes with learning, special education and/or related services may be recommended. All special education services are decided upon by an IEP (Individual Education Program) team and are delivered in the least restrictive environment. Services may include (but are not limited to) speech/language therapy, assistive technology, occupational therapy, adapted physical education, behavioral services, counseling, and physical therapy.

## When to Refer a Child

- When birth complications or a medical disorder interferes with development or learning
- When the child seems to have difficulty understanding simple directions
- When the child has difficulty hearing or seeing
- When it is hard to understand the child's speech
- When the child appears to be learning more slowly than other children his/her age
- When the child appears to have social or emotional difficulties that affect his/her ability to learn
- When a child is having trouble reading
- When a child's gross/fine motor skills are delayed



## Who can Make a Referral?

Parents, teachers, private schools, community agencies and individuals within the community who suspect that a child may have a disability may make a referral to a public school entity to determine if the child may have a qualifying disability and need special education. Any person wishing to make a referral should contact the child's district of residence.

## Butte County

### SELPA Mission

Butte County SELPA is dedicated to the belief that all students can learn and that students with special needs must be guaranteed equal opportunity to become contributing members of society. We believe in success for all students and support inclusion in all aspects of life. Our mission is to empower teachers and families to empower students. Student self-determination and independence are strong focuses in our SELPA, as well as strength-based and student-centered planning.

## Early Start from BCOE

The Butte County Office of Education's Early Start Program provides services to eligible infants and toddlers aged birth to three and their families. Eligible children include those who may have developmental delays or a condition that is an established risk for developmental delays. Anyone can make a referral by calling 530-532-5740 and speaking with an Early Start staff member.