

# General Transition Planning

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Transitions are times of change or modification in services or personnel for children and families enrolled in the Infant Toddler Program. These times may involve feelings of anxiety for all individuals involved, including professionals. Preparation and planning for change helps to ensure appropriate programs and services are in place and that the transition will be a positive experience. Transition planning is an ongoing interagency process that provides options, information, support, and linkage to new situations and services.

Transitions, viewed in a broad sense, and recognizing many changes that take place for children and families, may include:

- Hospital to home
- Home to program or service
- Program to program
- Service to service
- Family move

Transition planning during these times must be based on the individual needs of the child and family. Transition outcomes are to be incorporated into the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), as needed and appropriate for each family.

Transition outcomes may include the following activities:

- Discussing with families the available community options for children.  
Options may include child care, Head Start, private preschool, recreational programs, etc.
- Discussing available community program options for the family with parents and other family members.  
Options may include family/parent support groups, parent workshops, sibling support groups, linkage to Idaho Parents Unlimited, etc.
- Developing strategies to help prepare the child to adjust and function in a new setting (skill development, site visits, and schedule changes).
- Preparing the family and child for the transition (i.e., schedule adjustments, funding changes, referral to specific individuals, site visits between sending and receiving agencies, and skill development).
- Preparing the new service provider for the transition (i.e., in service or technical assistance, flexible approaches, resource information, and arrangements to transmit information).

The transition planning process participants may include the following:

- Parents, guardians, surrogate parents, other family members as requested
- Advocate, if requested by family
- Service Coordinator
- Primary health provider
- Local school representative
- Persons involved in conducting evaluations and assessments
- Lead agency representative
- Representative from present service provider
- Future service provider, if known