



Now what? Where do I go from here?

As if hearing that your child has been diagnosed with autism is not overwhelming enough, you now need to figure out where you go from here.

The good news is that you are not alone! Agencies can help and support you and your child on this journey. In addition to doctors and private therapy programs, there are other partners you will find helpful. No commitments are required when you contact any of these partners to learn more.



Birth to 3



Public Schools



County and State Agencies

Other Resources for Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers



Autism Society
Greater Wisconsin



<https://www.autismgreaterwi.org/>



the parenting PLACE



<https://www.theparentingplace.net/>



WSPEI

Wisconsin Statewide Parent Educator Initiative



<https://wspei.org/>



Wisconsin Wayfinder
Children's Resource Network



<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wiscway/index.htm>



MY CHILD HAS AUTISM: Educational Pathways and Family Services



Early Intervention



- Serves children with suspected disabilities and their families.
- Through a parent coaching model, they work with families to support the child's development and grow caregivers' knowledge, skills, and abilities.

Head Start & Early Head Start



- Head Start promotes school readiness for children under 5 from low income families through education, health, social and other services.
- Children with disabilities are prioritized for program slots.

Public School Services

Child Find

Public schools are required to identify students suspected of having a disability as early as the age of 3 at no cost to families.

- Contact your local school district.
- Ask about making a referral for special education evaluation.

Special Education

For students aged 3-21 with an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a range of disability and related services are provided to address educational needs free of charge.

Mandatory Attendance

Wisconsin law requires that all children 6-18 years old must attend a public or private school.

What about Homeschool?

Home School is considered home-based private education. It is a big commitment some parents choose. Learn more at www.dpi.wi.gov



County Services

Children's Long-Term Support Waiver (CLTS) is a program which provides support for children with disabilities and their families. It can help families connect to care, services, and other supports needed for children to live at home and thrive.

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