

**#2 Eligibility:** *How is an infant or toddler determined eligible for HMG EI?*

**Response:**

There are two ways in which a child is determined eligible for early intervention in Ohio. All eligible infants and toddlers are offered a multidisciplinary assessment to determine their need for early intervention services.

1. **Diagnosed condition** with a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay or disability
  - a. Diagnosed condition on list of qualifying conditions. Confirmation of this diagnosis *must* be received by the service coordinator within 45 days from date of program referral to HMG-EI.
  - b. Diagnosed condition not on the list of qualifying conditions but the service coordinator or parent requests that a qualified professional completes and signs HEA form 8024; a completed HEA 8024 includes the name of the physical or mental condition, and identification of which areas of development is impacted by the medical or mental condition.
  - c. HEA 8024 must be completed and given to the service coordinator within 45 days from date of program referral to HMG-EI.
2. **Developmental Delay**
  - a. The child has a documented delay of at least a 1.5 standard deviation below the mean in at least *one* developmental domain as indicated by the use of one of the two approved evaluation tools (Bayley or BDI-2).
  - b. The referred child is determined eligible by Informed Clinical Opinion (ICO).

**Considerations for Planning and Program Implementation:**

- It is the role and responsibility of the service coordinator to coordinate the eligibility process for all infants and toddlers referred to HMG EI.
- Once the infant or toddler has been determined eligible for HMG-EI then it is the role and responsibility of the service coordinator to coordinate a multidisciplinary assessment to determine the child/family's need for one or more early intervention service.
- It is the role and responsibility of the service coordinator to inform families that the child must be eligible *and* the child and/or family need one or more EI service to support the child's development in order to move on to the IFSP.

**Authorizing Rule:** 3701-08-7