

Early Intervention & Childcare Services

These programs provide families with children, particularly those with developmental differences or special needs, access to resources, support, and educational services to promote healthy development, school readiness, and family well-being.

Early Intervention /Childcare	Info	Contact	Website
Autism Waiver	To apply for the Autism Waiver, families must contact the Autism Waiver Registry at 1-866-417-3480. The program is administered through the Maryland State Department of Education, and eligible children can remain in the waiver until the end of the school year in which they turn 21.	Autism Waiver Registry at 1-866-417-3480	
Children's Specialized ABA, Center for Autism	Multidisciplinary team that provides evaluations, ABA therapy, and additional support and training to children and their families. Location in Ellicott City.	welcome@childrens-aba.org , 201-719-8222	www.childrens-aba.org
Children's Therapy Center of Columbia	Occupational Therapy Evaluation, Screening, and support for children.	10015 Old Columbia Rd, G-118, 410-997-8081	http://www.ctcofcolumbia.com
FAPE – Family Advocacy & Parent Education Program	Provides special education advocacy and familial support for students with special education needs. Services include one-to-one assistance and information on special education issues; one-to-one assistance on special education law and how it applies to personal circumstances; workshops and seminars on special education topics of	9770 Patuxent Woods Drive Suite 308, 410-290-3466	http://www.howard-autism.org/resources-services/family-advocacy-parent-education-program/

	interest; and a web-based special education news center. FAPE is free of charge to families. FAPE helps families to navigate the maze of special education laws and regulations. Services available for Spanish and Korean.		
Helping Hands Family-Autism Services	Individualized supports through Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy. Early Intervention and school transition support for children.	410-449-1094, 8335 Guilford Rd., Columbia, MD 21046	https://hhfamily.com/locations/columbia-md
Healthy Families Howard County	Free home-visiting programs for families; promotes positive parent-child relationships, early detection of developmental delays, and school readiness	410-313-1940 or email children@howardcountymd.gov	https://www.howardcountymd.gov/children-families/home-visiting
LOCATE: Child Care for Parents	Free, personalized resource and referral counseling service designed to help parents choose a quality child care program that meets their needs.	877-261-0060 or the CARE line 410-313-2273	https://locatesearch.marylandfamilynetwork.org/city/columbia-md
Pathfinders for Autism	Education, resources, and community training to support individuals with autism and their families	443-330-5370	https://pathfindersforautism.org/
The Family Tree	Parenting assistance and support. Child care options, child abuse prevention, parenting groups, and education.	800-243-7337	https://www.familytreemd.org/