

Applying for MH/ID/EI Services

Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities/Early Intervention

MH/ID/EI- case management provided by **SAM** (Service Access and Management): Apply as Soon As Possible- Early intervention services are available from Birth-3years of age; other services may be available for school age children through adulthood. Having a case manager years before graduation or aging out is important, to allow Transition Planning for adult services at or near graduation.

ALWAYS APPLY FOR SERVICES! There may be a number of reasons a student is eligible for services. Let the agency determine who is eligible for the program.

MH services: Typically, AS students and ES students are eligible (also any students with behavior support plans). Services might not be available for adult Clients

ID services: any student with a psychological evaluation which indicates an IQ of 70 or below with 3 deficits in level of adaptive functioning.

Know that most agencies have an appeal process if eligibility is denied. Contact the agency for information on the appeal process.

MH/ID needs to budget years ahead. Be aware: If you wait until your child is ready to graduate or age out to apply, there could be a wait for funding for services/supports.

If a case is inactive, contact the case management unit or MH/ID to reopen.

Intake/Registration for Intellectual Disabilities (ID)

Franklin/Fulton Intellectual Disabilities Services
425 Franklin Farm Lane
Chambersburg, 17202

717-264-5387
800-841-3593
Fax: 717-263-0469

Intake/Registration for Mental Health (MH) via SAM

717-261-1555 Fax 717-264-6297

SAM Services and Locations, in Franklin & Fulton Counties

Mental Health: Administrative Case Management, Intensive Case Management, Resource Coordination.
Intellectual Developmental Disability Supports Coordination
Early Intervention Service Coordination
Intake Coordination Services

Franklin County- 1061 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg, PA 17201

Fulton County- 292 Buchanan Trail, McConnellsburg, PA 17233

Entitlement vs. Eligibility

It is important to understand the difference between "entitlement" and "eligibility" programs.

Entitlement: It is the school's responsibility to comply with The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEIA) which assures that **all children with a disability are entitled to a free, appropriate public education, designed to meet their unique needs. (Through the school year in which the student turns 21)**

Eligibility: Students (and adults) with disabilities may choose to seek services from a public rehabilitation program. These programs operate under another law—the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. This law requires applicants to meet certain criteria in order to be eligible for services. **Parents, students, and advocates must seek out these services. The agencies are under no obligation to approach you, or to offer services, nor can they guarantee that you will meet eligibility requirements or receive services.**

Note that funding for rehabilitation services is limited. Each agency has its own priority system for determining who shall receive services. Even if eligible, due to funding limitations and priority systems, clients might not receive services.