

August 2025



U.S. Department of Health
and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention



Monthly Update: WIC Developmental Monitoring Project



<https://asphn.org/learn-the-signs-act-early/>

Upcoming Events

- August 27th: Feeding Matters 101; Tools to Support PFD
- September 24th: Spotlight on Success: 2025 State Projects and Lessons Learned

[Register here](#)

**Monthly trainings take place on the 4th Wednesday at 11 am ET.*

Sharing Updates/Resources

Would your state like to be featured in an upcoming newsletter? Please send an update on what your state is working on regarding developmental monitoring by the 20th of the month to be featured in the following month's newsletter.

Send to amberbrown@asphn.org
Thanks!

Join us for Our August Online Training

Date: August 27th, 11 am ET

Topic: Feeding Matters 101: Tools to Support PFD

Description:

This training will introduce the WIC Developmental Monitoring Collaborative to **Feeding Matters**, a national nonprofit dedicated to advancing the understanding, early identification, and treatment of pediatric feeding disorder (PFD). Participants will learn about key resources for families and professionals and how WIC staff can use Feeding Matters tools to support early intervention and improve care coordination.

ASPHN and CDC Updates



Highlighting a Resource

Helpful Resource: FAQs About Developmental Monitoring in WIC

The CDC's FAQs About Developmental Monitoring in WIC document is a great go-to resource for understanding how milestone checklists can be used within WIC services. It addresses common questions about why monitoring matters, how it fits into WIC's role, and how staff can support families with referrals when needed. This is perfect for anyone new to offering milestone checklists or as a staff refresher.

Developmental Milestone Checklist Program for WIC Frequently Asked Questions

COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT MILESTONE CHECKLISTS

When do we offer the checklists to parents? Checklists should be given at certification and mid-certification appointments, except when an infant is younger than 2 months. There is no checklist for newborn to age 2 months. *Note: Ignoring a checklist or doing other activities; the parent registers you that the child has already been diagnosed with a developmental delay or is receiving specialized services for developmental concerns (e.g., speech/language therapy, early childhood special education, or other early intervention like speech therapy). If that is the case, there is no need for the parent to complete a checklist or a referral to be made. Often, the same individual would be responsible for the checklist and not brought up with the parent the same.*

What checklist do I use if the child was born prematurely? If a child was born prematurely (<37 weeks gestation), offer the checklist that fits his or her corrected age, up until age 2 years. Find instructions for calculating corrected age here: <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages/stages/delays/preemie/Pages/Corrected-Age-For-Premies.aspx>

What do we do with the checklists when there is no need for a referral? Give the checklist to the parent when the child is reaching his/her developmental milestones. Encourage the parent to share the checklist with others (e.g., the child's healthcare provider, child care provider or teacher, family members).

What do I do if a parent is upset that their child is missing milestones? Reassure the parent as you would when there is any concern (low iron, for example). You can say, "Children develop at their own pace; each child is different. But it's important to follow up with your healthcare provider to make sure. Just get it checked out."

What do I do if a parent considers a referral to be criticism of their parenting skills? You can say, "We know you are a good parent; that's why you'll want to check this out. We know you want to do all you can to help your child."

Does this program overlap with what healthcare providers may be doing in terms of developmental milestones? In some cases, it may. Young children grow and change quickly, so it's a great idea to do these kinds of checklists frequently. Most healthcare providers will agree that it's the best way to make sure a child's development is on track.

What can I expect if we have the parent "schedule a follow-up visit" with the child's healthcare provider? The WIC participant can take the checklist with them to this appointment and share any concerns they have about their child's development. The healthcare provider will discuss the child's development and determine if further follow-up or screening is necessary.

What if the child has already been diagnosed by a doctor or other healthcare provider with a developmental delay or disability? The parent does not need to complete a checklist. You can also indicate this in the child's record so you can skip the checklist with this parent in the future.

Can the WIC Milestone Checklist Program be billed to Medicaid? No, it is not a developmental diagnostic or screening assessment.

WIC FAQ Document

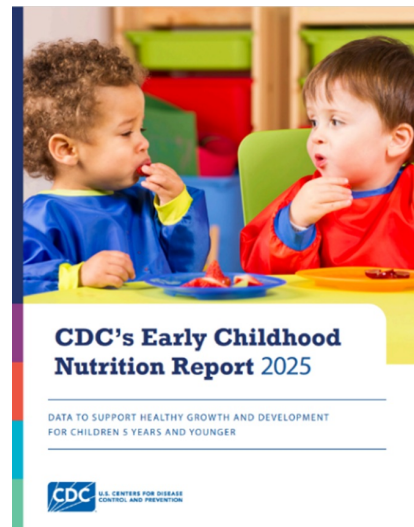
Join ASPHN for an Upcoming Webinar

Date: August 11th at 11 am ET

Topic: CDC's Early Childhood Nutrition Report, 2025: *Data to support healthy growth and development for children 5 years and younger*

Description:

CDC's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity (DNPAO) is pleased to highlight the release of the Early Childhood Nutrition Report, 2025 – a [National Summary](#), and [State Reports](#). This report contains data for all 50 states and D.C. on 16 indicators covering breastfeeding,



supports for infant feeding, first solid foods, healthy eating, and affordability of nutritious foods. The webinar will focus on key findings and how the report can be used.

Presented By:

- **Lucas Gosdin, PhD, MPH;** *Health Scientist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity*
- **Priya Mehta-Gupta Das, PhD, MPH;** *Epidemiologist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity*

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Networking Questions!

Throughout the year, we will hold periodic networking calls. Please send me any questions or topics you are interested in discussing with other states. Please email amberbrown@asphn.org with your suggestions!

You are receiving this monthly newsletter because you are a part of the ASPHN WIC Developmental Monitoring Project. This newsletter will feature updates from states within the project about what they are doing and successes and challenges they have had, information about upcoming trainings, and other news. If you have anything you'd like to contribute, you can reach out to Amber Brown at AmberBrown@asphn.org. Thank you! <https://asphn.org/learn-the-signs-act-early/>

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