



# **An autism spectrum disorder diagnosis can be overwhelming for your family. Resources are available to assist you in providing the best care for your loved one.**

## **First Steps**

First Steps is a program that provides early intervention services for families who have infants and toddlers (birth to 3rd birthday) with developmental delays. If you have any concerns about your child's development, or know that your child has a disability, Call: 800-441-STEP (800-441-7837) or <https://www.in.gov/fssa/firststeps/about-first-steps/>

## **Medicaid Waiver Program**

Medicaid waivers allow Medicaid to pay for services that support families in caring for a loved one at home and allow adults with disabilities to live in the community residential programs with supports. Family income is not considered when determining Medicaid eligibility for children receiving Medicaid Waiver services. There is typically a waiting list to get Medicaid Waiver services, so it is important to apply and get on the waiting list, even if you do not need services at this time. <https://bddsgateway.fssa.in.gov/>

## **Special Education**

Pre-school and school-age children with a disability are eligible for a free and appropriate education through the public school system, beginning at age three and continuing through their 21st birthday. Eligibility for special education services is determined through the local school corporation. Contact your local school corporation, or the State Division of Exceptional Learners. Call: 317-232-0570 or 877-851-4106.

## **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) provides federal financial assistance, in the form of a monthly check, for eligible individuals who have a disability and who have little income or assets. Children with disabilities may be eligible for SSI, depending on their level of disability and family income. Eligibility is determined through your local Social Security office. <https://secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp>

(Resources are for the state of Indiana and will vary depending on your location)