



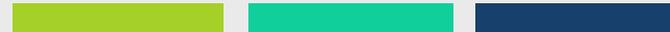
“You are the expert!”

Working together!

When parents and professionals work together as a team, children do better. While professionals have expertise in working with children, you are the expert on your own child. You have information about your child that cannot be gathered through any other method other than to hear it directly from you.



for Programs Serving Prekindergarten
Children with Disabilities



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**The
Family's
Role in**

**Florida's Child
Outcomes
Summary (COS)
Process**





What is the Child Outcomes Summary Process?

The Child Outcomes Summary (COS) process is a method of collecting and summarizing information about the way your child is developing and participating in activities at home, at school, or in the community. Families are an important part of that process!

Why is it needed?

To determine if children are making progress, the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) requires all state Early Childhood Special Education programs to report data on the following three child outcomes:

1. Children have positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships);
2. Children acquire and use knowledge and skills (including early language/communication and early literacy); and
3. Children use appropriate behaviors to meet their needs

What information can I share about my child's progress?

You can be prepared for any conversation about your child's development by making your own observations and sharing what you see. Even small changes are important in the measurement of the three child outcomes. Remember, you know your child best. As an equal partner on your child's assessment team, you can provide information about how your child:

- Relates to family, other children, caregivers, strangers
- Respond when dropped off at school
- Shows his or her feelings when upset
- Follows rules and expectations
- Tries to do new things or solve problems
- Communicates thoughts and ideas
- Attempts to be independent
- Seeks help when needed



Why is this information important to my family?

The three child outcomes focus on what your child can do in his or her everyday routines and activities. By looking at how well your child is doing in each of the three areas, you can determine what he or she needs in order to become more involved at school and in your family's activities. The information gathered about your child will also help you develop individual outcomes and goals for your child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

