

# ELIGIBILITY

IDEA requires that Arizona have a definition of developmental delay for those children who do not have an established condition with a high probability for developmental delay. The Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP), is responsible for ensuring that Service Coordinators explain to families that they may potentially be eligible for supports and services through AzEIP, the Division for Developmental Disabilities (DDD) and/or the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB). If the service coordinator and/or evaluation team suspect that a child is eligible for DDD and/or ASDB they are **required** to submit an application and provide all documents to the appropriate agency to facilitate a simultaneous eligibility decision

Children who may be at risk for cerebral palsy, autism, epilepsy or a cognitive impairment, may be eligible for services and supports through DDD. Children who have permanent and bilateral impairments in their vision and/or hearing are eligible for support from ASDB.

## Who determines if the child is eligible

The AzEIP evaluation team determines if the child is eligible for AzEIP. DDD staff decide if that a child is eligible for DDD and ASDB staff decide if that child is eligible for ASDB. AzEIP Team Based Early Intervention Services providers and service coordinators are required to submit documents, including medical records and/or evaluations, for anyone they suspect is eligible for DDD and/or ASDB.



## Paperwork:

### *DDD:*

- DDD Application
- Developmental Summary Report; or
- Medical or other evaluation documents to support eligibility determination.

### *ASDB:*

- ASDB Referral
- Developmental Evaluation Report; or
- Medical or other evaluation documents to support eligibility determination.

**Simultaneous eligibility determination ensures that the process makes sense to families and reduces the need for families to repeat their story. Additionally, it ensures that the team knows who will provide service coordination and how services will be funded before the IFSP is developed.**

# SAMPLE SCRIPT

“As I explained on the phone during our initial call, AzEIP is a multi-agency system. We not only determine if your child is eligible for AzEIP, but also whether or not your child might be eligible for supports and services through the Division for Developmental Disabilities—known as DDD and/or the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind—known as ASDB. As your service coordinator I forward documentation that would assist those offices to determine your child’s eligibility for funding and/or other services . If your child is eligible for either or both programs, your core team, your physical therapist, occupational therapist, developmental special instructor and your speech language pathologist will stay the same. You may have a different service coordinator, but don’t worry the service coordinators from the DDD and the hearing, vision specialists and service coordinators from the ASDB are part of our team too! We meet regularly to discuss the families we support together. If your child is eligible for other services like nursing, respite, orientation and mobility, or rehabilitation we can coordinate with those service providers to ensure that your outcomes are being supported.

Let’s review the documents and the application, I’ll be sharing with DDD and/or ASDB. For children eligible for DDD and/or ASDB we use funding from those programs to support your child’s services. If your child is determined eligible for either DDD and/or ASDB you may also have additional rights under those state agencies. We can look at those documents together so that you understand any additional rights. If your child is not found eligible for one or both of those programs, but your child is eligible for AzEIP, we’ll continue to provide supports and use private and public insurance, Family Cost Participation and/or AzEIP funds to pay for services.”

## **Where to find more information on DDD and ASDB Eligibility :**

**DDD:** [https://ddd.azdes.gov/ddd/EligibilityReferral/frm\\_EligibilityRequirements.aspx](https://ddd.azdes.gov/ddd/EligibilityReferral/frm_EligibilityRequirements.aspx)

**ASDB:** [http://www.asdb.az.gov/asdb/index.php/home/Early\\_Childhood\\_and\\_Family\\_Education](http://www.asdb.az.gov/asdb/index.php/home/Early_Childhood_and_Family_Education)