

Late Referrals to Part C (<135 days of child's 3rd birthday)

Introduction and Explanation to the Chart

The attached timeline chart was developed as a TA document by the OSEP TA Priority Team on Early Childhood Transition in response to questions being raised by states about the IDEA early childhood transition requirements and how they might best fulfill them.

When children are referred to Part C as they are approaching age 3, there are different program and reporting requirements for the IDEA Part C and Part B Programs depending on the age of the child being referred. The requirements for these “late referrals” vary for three distinct ranges of days before the child’s third birthday: less than 45 days, between 46 and 90 days, and between 91 and 135 days. Most of the requirements for this last time frame are similar to those for all children referred to Part C prior to 90 days before their 3rd birthday; however, some reporting requirements and recommended practices are unique for this time frame.

The attached chart depicts the requirements in a way intended to illustrate the differences in the roles and responsibilities of the Parts C and B programs within a time period, and within each program across the three time periods. The chart’s information is based on the IDEA 2004 Statute for Part C, the Federal Regulations for IDEA Part B that relate to transition and child find, and the OSEP FAQ on SPP/APR Indicators C-8 and B-12 released 12/1/09.

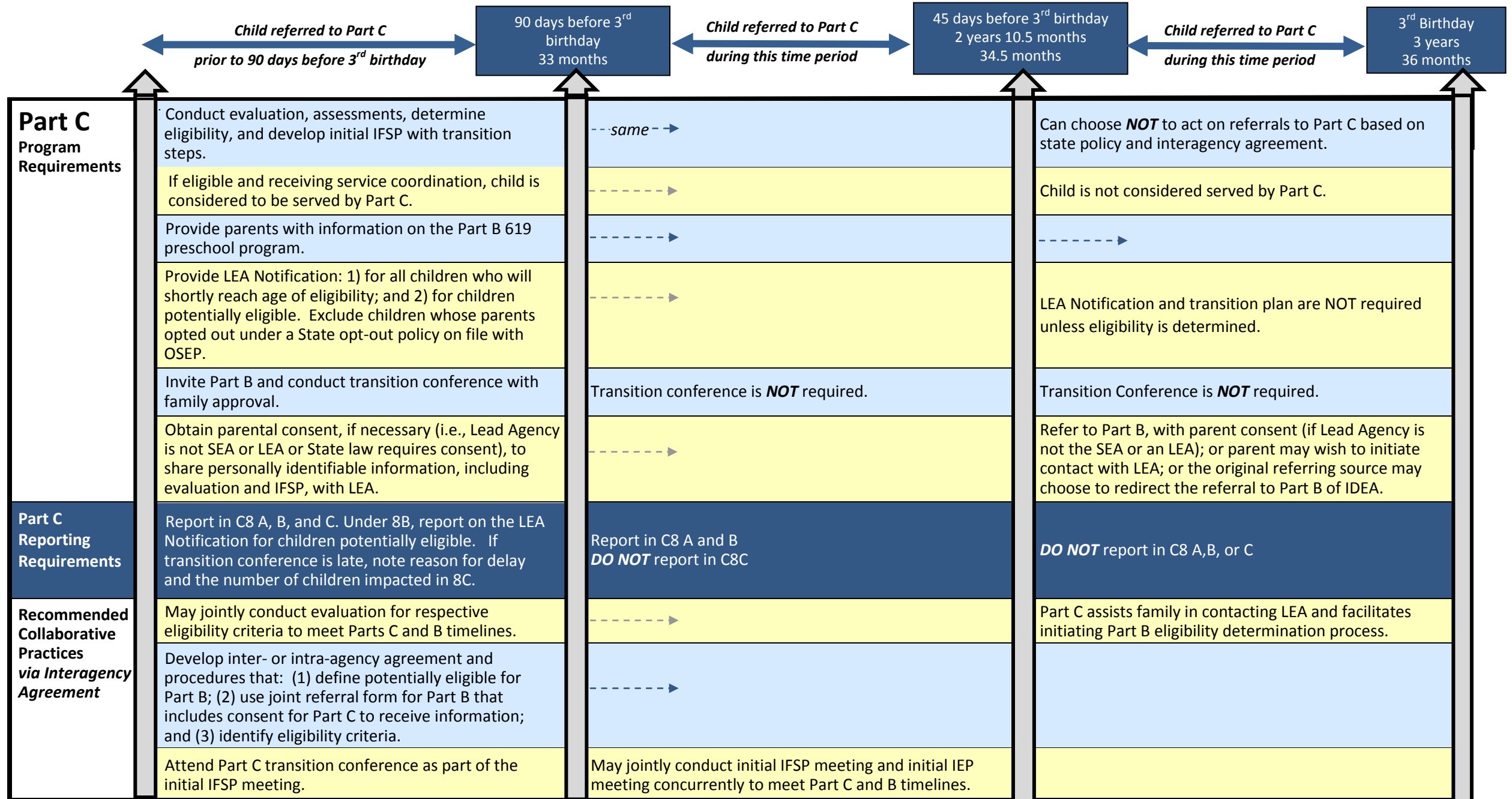
Coordination between the IDEA Part C and Part B program is critical to ensure that both programs can reach and maintain 100% compliance with SPP/APR Indicators C8 and B12 on early childhood transition. It is also critical to ensure that families gain an understanding of the different service delivery systems and their options in a compassionate and meaningful way. And finally, it is important to ensure that children receive the services they need to promote their learning and development. Collaboration between the two programs helps families and children adjust to, and prepare for, this period of transition.

The IDEA Part C and Part B programs are strongly encouraged to work together to develop collaborative State and local practices to ensure smooth transitions for children and families and to ensure that both programs can meet the required timelines.

The IDEA statute and applicable regulations can be accessed at:

- IDEA 2004 Statute (P.L. 108-446) for Parts B and C
<http://idea.ed.gov/explore/view/p/%2Croot%2Cstatute%2CI%2C>
- IDEA Federal Regulations at 34 CFR Parts 300 and 303
<http://idea.ed.gov/explore/view/p/%2Croot%2Cregs%2C> (Part B)
<http://nectac.org/idea/303regs.asp> (Part C) as modified by 20 U.S.C. 1401 through 1444.

Federal IDEA Part C & Part B Transition Requirements for Late Referrals to Part C



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