

Healthy Start FAQ: Learn the Signs. Act Early.



On March 24, 2015 Camille Smith from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, led a webinar built around CDC's program "Learn the Signs. Act Early." This program is aimed at improving early identification of children with autism and other developmental disabilities in order to ensure that children and families receive any needed services and support as early as possible. This health education campaign has a substantial number of relevant information, tools, and resources for Healthy Start grantees to promote awareness of healthy developmental milestones, understand the importance of tracking each child's development, and acting early if there are concerns. During the webinar, Camille reviewed and described the free, research-based tools available to grantees through the "Learn the Signs. Act Early." program. At the end of the presentation, attendees asked several great questions, all of which have been answered below.

In case you or a colleague missed the webinar, you can access the recording [here](#).

How can the program's materials be customized for a specific Healthy Start project?

Visit the [Learn The Signs. Act Early.](#) website and check out the Free Materials section. There you'll find direct instructions on how to customize the materials to better fit your Healthy Start program. Something to note is that the only non-modifiable component is the text content. Feel free to reach out to Camille Smith at cas0@cdc.gov with any concerns or issues.

How can grantees get in touch with somebody to individualize materials for a Healthy Start project?

Contact Camille Smith at cas0@cdc.gov so that she can reach out to the web development team to begin the process of individualizing files and content.

What is the process for adding a new development milestone and how often are they updated based on the literature?

The CDC works closely with the American Academy of Pediatrics and Bright Futures to regularly review and update, as appropriate, the milestones to reflect current best practice.

Camille and her team are currently developing a digital library comprised of pictures and videos for all the milestones included in the program materials. As a result of this creation process, current milestones are being reviewed for any necessary changes, and any edits will be made in conjunction with recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics. The digital library aims to more clearly define and demonstrate to participating families what the milestones mean.

When is the digital video library expected to be ready for public access?

At this point, the library should be available by the end of spring 2015 or the first part of summer 2015.

Can Healthy Start programs order boxes of the booklets or do they need to print materials themselves? Is there a usage cost?

Free materials are available in bulk but supplies are limited. Materials can also be reproduced by grantees. Camille has seen some programs work together to pool resources and combine funding in order to print large amounts of material.