

TO: Coordinators for Preschool DIAL Screening
FROM: Alicia Peterson, Early Childhood/Speech Coordinator
RE: Preschool Screening Organization

Dear Coordinator:

Attached are the 2026 DIAL preschool screening forms.

The Early Childhood Teacher assigned to your district has already confirmed the dates with you so please double check the dates on your calendar with the enclosed schedule and contact your respective county or school nurse regarding the dates so they can conduct the vision/health screening.

Please review the following information:

1. Because of increased responsibilities, Birth to 3 Coordinators Shannon Nelson, Bridget Amundson, and Holly Mosterd will not be attending the district's preschool screenings. Any parent of a child ages Birth to 2 years, 11 months old who wants a screening completed should contact the Birth to 3 Service Coordinator for your district by phone or email.

Bridget Amundson -Marion and Parker districts - Bridget.L.Amundson@usd.edu or call (605) 357-1420.
Shannon Nelson -Bridgewater-Emery, Canistota, Ethan, Hanson, McCook Central, and Montrose districts - Shannon.Nelson@usd.edu or call (605) 202-0100. Holly Mosterd-Freeman district - holly.mosterd@k12.sd.us or call (605) 680-1949.

These numbers and e-mail addresses are also included in the news release form. (Form A) Please use the district specific form so the correct Service Coordinator information is provided to the parents.

If parents call the school, please provide the Service Coordinator's information so they can call the Coordinator directly to have a screening completed.

2. DIAL-4 is normed for children ages 2.6-5.11. However, we will continue to screen children age 3-5. **Please DO NOT schedule children who will definitely be attending Kindergarten in the fall, especially if they have previously attended the screening. If you choose to do a Kindergarten screening there are several instruments available for that specific purpose.**

3. Calculating the chronological age. Please read the enclosed form - Calculating the Chronological Age - before you fill out the DIAL-4 record form. Examples are provided.

4. The parent questionnaire is an important part of the screening, as it will be scored and become part of the total screening summary. It will be your decision as to when the parent questionnaire is completed. You may want to send it out before the screening and have it returned the day of the screening or have the parent fill it out the day of the screening. Each school will receive the parent questionnaire(s) from the Cooperative office.

If you have any questions regarding the organization of the preschool screening program please feel free to call me at the Cooperative office (605) 271-0218.

Have a successful preschool screening!

Sincerely,

Alicia Peterson
Early Childhood/Speech Coordinator
Cornbelt Educational Cooperative
enclosures