

Position Title:

Child Developmental Specialist (Infant Toddler Development Specialist)			
Employer:	Location:	Counties Served:	Salary:
The North-Dade Early Steps Program	The University of Miami-Mailman Center for Child Development	Miami-Dade	The University of Miami offers competitive salaries and a comprehensive benefits package including medical, dental, tuition remission and more.

Position Description:

The Child Development Specialist works with children, their parents, and educators in assessing a child's development needs, deficiencies, and goals. Moreover, this position offers parents and caretakers advice on how to best overcome the challenges presented by developmental issues.

- Provides evaluations, reports, goals, direct therapy, and consultation services.
- Implements services and activities for children with a variety of developmental and diagnostic indicators.
- Delivers consultation services to parents, caregivers, teachers, and community specialists and professionals regarding client progress and recommendations.
- Assists children with physical, social, and behavioral needs.
- Maintains effective communications with parents.
- Preserves confidentiality while communicating with parents and other departments about individual children and family needs and progress.
- Ensures all licensing regulations are complied with at all times.
- Inputs patient data into appropriate computer systems in a timely manner.
- With the team, develops an Individualized Family Support Plan (IFSP) that includes an individualized plan of care
 for interventions in the natural environments for infants and children 0-3, based on child and family
 assessments. Collaborates with the multidisciplinary team to determine the best available service for the
 child/parent within the community.
- Educates parents about the child's strengths and weaknesses and developmental needs by participating in the
 Family Support Planning Process. Provides direct instruction to families and other caregivers on strategies to
 meet identified individualized needs and outcomes as written on the IFSP. Participates in updating and
 implementing the IFSP and evaluates developmental progress as necessary to determine efficiency of
 interventions.
- Adheres to University and unit-level policies and procedures and safeguards University assets.

Department Specific Functions:

- Participates as a team member in the evaluation and ongoing assessment of children's developmental
 functioning using formal and informal testing measures and tools to examine the cognitive, gross/fine motor
 development, language, social-emotional, and self-help skills of infants and toddlers at risk for or presenting
 with developmental delays. Assessment focuses on use of standardized psychological measures of
 development.
- Provides services in natural environment, i.e. in the home and community, to play a pivotal role in providing and/or coordinating early intervention services to the family within the community.
- Provides direct instruction to families and other caregivers on strategies to meet identified individualized needs and outcomes as written on the IFSP.
- Works in a leadership role to assess, plan, provide, coordinate, and evaluate early intervention services and strategies in a natural environment using a consultative approach.
- Interprets developmental/medical assessment and evaluation results for families as part of a team. Interpret results of assessments under the supervision of a Ph.D. Psychologist.
- Develops an individualized plan of care including natural environments based on child and family assessments and the Individualized Family Support Plan (IFSP) as part of a team. Implement individualized developmental plans with infants and children 0-3 and/or their parents via individualized intervention sessions.
- Participates in updating and implementing the IFSP.
- Provide direct instruction to families and other caregivers on strategies to meet identified individualized needs and outcomes as written on the IFSP.

- Collaborates with multidisciplinary team to determine the best available service for the child/parent within the community.
- Educates parents about the child's strengths and weaknesses and developmental needs by participating in the Family Support Planning Process.
- Evaluates developmental progress as necessary to determine efficiency of interventions.

This list of duties and responsibilities is not intended to be all-inclusive and may be expanded to include other duties or responsibilities as necessary.

Requirements:

CORE QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's degree in early childhood or early childhood/special education, child and family development, family life specialist, communication sciences, psychology, or social work is required or master's degree preferred.
- Certification in relevant specialty or field
- Bilingual English/Creole preferred.
- Minimum 2 years of experience. At least one year of experience working with infants and/or toddlers with special needs and/or developmental delays and their families is required.
- Ability to maintain effective interpersonal relationships.
- Ability to communicate effectively in both oral and written form.
- Ability to process and handle confidential information with discretion.
- Commitment to the University's core values.

Any relevant education, certifications and/or work experience may be considered.

Contact:

Michelle D. Berkovits, Ph.D. mberkovits@med.miami.edu (305) 243-6660