

## Why have an autism registry?

Children with autism can benefit greatly from specialized services and supports. The Registry is helpful for planning and providing services for children with autism and their families.



## For More Information

Contact us with questions about your child's registration at:

|   |   |
|---|---|
|  | 609-292-5676  |
|  | eim.bdars@doh.nj.gov  |
|  | <a href="https://nj.gov/health/fhs/autism">nj.gov/health/fhs/autism</a> |

## Additional Resources

### Early Intervention Services

Available for children from birth up to three years old with developmental delays and disabilities. Contact the New Jersey Early Intervention System at 888-653-4463 or visit: [nj.gov/health/fhs/eis](https://nj.gov/health/fhs/eis)

### Case Management Services

Available for children from birth up to 22 years with special health care needs and chronic medical conditions. Call 609-777-7778 for the case management unit in your county of residence or visit: [nj.gov/health/fhs/specialneeds/casemanagement](https://nj.gov/health/fhs/specialneeds/casemanagement)

New Jersey Department of Health  
Division of Family Health Services  
PO Box 364  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0364

Follow us @NJDeptofHealth



# New Jersey Autism Registry

Information for Families

## About Autism

Autism or Autism Spectrum Disorder is a developmental disorder that affects a person's communication, social interactions, and behavior. It is called a spectrum disorder because signs and symptoms range from mild to severe. Some examples of the difficulties that children with autism experience include understanding and using spoken language, using imaginative play, having unusual sensory experiences such as sensitivity to noise and touch, and coping with changes to routines.

The cause of autism is unknown, but current research strongly suggests that it is a genetic disorder possibly triggered by environmental factors, which are currently not known.

## About the New Jersey Autism Registry

Your health care provider will register your child by completing specific forms and submitting them to the Autism Registry. Only children who are New Jersey residents and under the age of 22 will be registered.

Your provider must inform you about the required registration and about your options for a named or anonymous registration. If you are unsure if your child has been registered and would like to have your child registered, contact your health care provider.

## What information will be included in the registry?

### All registrations include the following:

- ▶ The child's diagnosis, when symptoms were first noticed, and the date they were diagnosed
- ▶ The child's gender and race

### Named registrations include:

- ▶ The child's name and full date of birth
- ▶ The child's parents' names and contact information

### Anonymous registrations only include non-identifying information:

- ▶ The child's first initial and month/year of birth
- ▶ The parents' city and county of residence

### After your child is registered:

- ▶ Only families of children with named registrations will be contacted. If your child was registered anonymously, you can ask your health care provider to contact us and request a named registration.
- ▶ If you have chosen a named registration, you will receive a confirmation letter from the Special Child Health Services Registry informing you that a case manager will contact you to offer free information and support. To protect your family's privacy, the letter does not include specific details about your child's diagnosis.

### What services are available for my child?

The New Jersey Department of Health's Special Child Health Services Case Management Unit can help you find resources and services specific to your child's needs.

Participation is voluntary and available at any time until your child turns 22.

### Confidentiality of the Registry

We recognize the sensitivity of your information and respect the rights of all individuals with autism and their families. We take our obligation to protect the privacy and confidentiality of individuals seriously. Personal information is not shared with any other agencies without your written consent.

