

SOESD COLLABORATIVE CENTER FOR AUTISM



Providing Comprehensive Evaluations of Pre-Kindergarten Children for Autism Spectrum Disorder

- Our Jackson County SOESD Collaborative Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Early Identification Team includes both medical and educational professionals experienced in the identification of children with ASD working collaboratively to provide both medical diagnosis and educational eligibility simultaneously, using research-based, autism-specific tools for evaluation (e.g. ADOS-2, CARS-2, STAT) and an understanding of potential co-occurring health issues.
- In Oregon, making a medical diagnosis of ASD and determining eligibility for educational services for ASD are two separate processes. Some children are found eligible for educational services for ASD, but do not receive a medical diagnosis of ASD, or vice versa. This can create a great deal of confusion for families. Our collaborative process eliminates this confusion.
- ASD now affects about 1:36 children in the United States (<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2023/p0323-autism.html>) and accurately identifying a child with ASD as early as possible is important since earlier intervention results in better outcomes for children with ASD.



Benefits of Our Community Based Team:

- **Local:** *saves time and expense of distant center evaluation*
- **Timely:** *children seen within 2-4 months instead of waiting over a year*
- **Family Centered:** *CCA Team provides a supportive process that appreciates the unique strengths of your child including a parent partner focusing on support for the family*

To find out if your child, student or patient is eligible for an evaluation, contact:

Jackson County Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education

640 Superior Ct. Medford, OR 97504 Phone: 541-494-7800 Fax: 541-494-7829