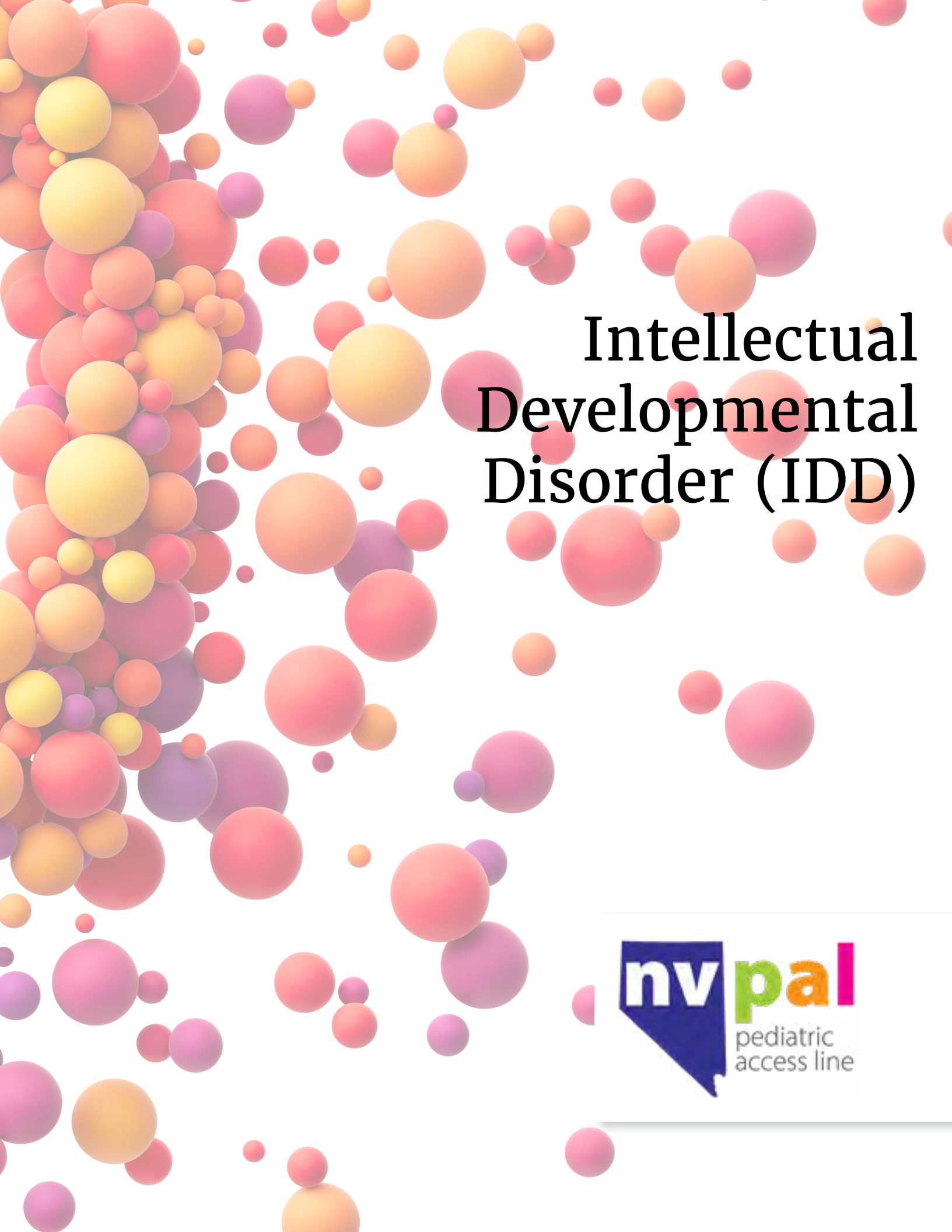




Intellectual Developmental Disorder (IDD)



Intellectual Developmental Disorder (Intellectual Disability)

Intellectual Developmental Disorder (IDD) is characterized by differences in conceptual, social, and practical areas of living that begin in early childhood/infancy. IDD can be caused by certain genetic conditions, problems during pregnancy, problems at birth, or other health problems. However, it may never be completely clear why a child develops IDD.

Diagnosis

Intellectual disabilities are diagnosed by looking at two main factors:

1. The ability of a person's brain to learn, think, solve problems, and make sense of the world (called IQ or intellectual functioning); and
2. Whether the person has the skills he or she needs to live independently (called adaptive behavior, or adaptive functioning).

There is no "cure" for IDD, but this does not mean that individuals with IDD aren't capable of learning, growing, and experiencing a fulfilling and meaningful life. It does mean, however, that they will require more support and accommodations at home, school, and work compared to their peers in order to meet certain milestones.

Management

Due to difficulties making sense of the world and communicating effectively, it is not uncommon for children with IDD to struggle with regulating their emotions and therefore behaving in ways that can be difficult for families to manage.

Parents can manage their child's behaviors through learning and implementing fundamental behavioral modification principles such as the following:

- **REINFORCEMENT: BEHAVIOR + ATTENTION = MORE BEHAVIOR**
Reinforcement (reward) for desired behaviors increases the likelihood this behavior will occur again. Something as simple as a smile, hug, or a high five can be reinforcing to a child and help them understand what kind of behavior is expected and desired.
- **MODELING BEHAVIOR**
Children learn by watching everyone around them and children with IDD are no exception to this. Model behaviors that you would like to see in the child and point out positive behaviors being modeled by others (e.g., sharing, safe ways to calm down).

Intervention

EARLY INTERVENTION (UP TO 3YRS)

In Nevada, infants with IDD are able to participate in early intervention services (until their 3rd birthday). An Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) should be created with the child's early intervention team, which outlines the child's unique needs and what interventions will be necessary to address these needs.

The Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) System can help connect children and families with early intervention services. They can be contacted at the following: By phone: [1-800-522-0066](tel:1-800-522-0066) or By email: projectassist@dhhs.nv.gov

CHILDHOOD THROUGH ADULT INTERVENTION (3 YRS - 21 YRS)

Children with IDD likely require assistance beyond their third birthday. Such services are available for children and young adults with a disability, ages 3 to 21, through the local school district.

For children in the Clark County School District, guardians can contact **Child Find** to get connected with resources for individuals ages 3-21. Requirements to access these services are listed below:

To get started:

1. Complete online registration in Infinite Campus at <https://ccsd.net/parents/online-registration.php>
2. Send the following documents to the Child Find office:
 - State photo identification or driver's license of the parent or guardian
 - Birth certificate of the child

Once documentation is provided and received by the Child Find office, you will be contacted by phone to complete the process, including an interview completed by an intake clerk from the Child Find office.

After the process is completed, you will be given your child's CCSD student identification number and your child will be assigned to a team for possible assessment. You will receive a call from the Child Find assessment team to schedule an appointment.

Additional information regarding resources and accommodations for children with IDD in school settings across Nevada can be found here:

- Visit www.nvpep.org or
- Call 800-216-5188

References:

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