



	Peer Model (First Step)	Special Education (First Step)
What are the hours?	Hours	Hours
	AM Program: 8:20-10:50 AM	AM Program: 8:20-10:50 AM
	(Tuesday- Friday)	(Tuesday- Friday)
	PM Program: 11:50-2:30 PM	PM Program: 11:50-2:30 PM
	(Tuesday- Friday)	(Tuesday- Friday)
	*Follows the same calendar as PCSD grades K-12.	*Follows the same calendar as PCSD grades K-12.
Who does this program serve?	Open to Parma Residents ONLY	Open to Parma Residents ONLY
What is the cost?	\$600 per year (payment plans available)	Free for qualifying families
Is transportation provided?	No transportation	Transportation available for qualifying families
How old does my child have to be?	Students must be three-years-old by September 30.	Students must be three-years-old by September 30.





### How do I register?

#### Peer Model Application

If you are interested, please fill out this form and return it to First Step either by mail, drop off or scan and email to johnsond@parmacityschools.org.

As soon as we receive it we will connect with you to set up a time to bring your child to participate in class to see if they are right for the peer model position. If accepted you will receive a letter and information on how to complete a registration.

If you suspect that your child may be experiencing significant delays in one or more critical areas (physical development: fine and gross motor skills, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development, adaptive behavior: self-help skills) you should call First Step at 440.885.8645.

- **Step 1--Referral for Evaluation:** At the preschool level, the parent(s) must initiate the referral for a child to be evaluated. The evaluation team will take information from the parent in order to inform the next steps in the evaluation process. The evaluation team will ask the parent(s) to provide the information and may ask for written reports from other professionals that may have valuable knowledge regarding the child's development (pediatricians, private therapists, etc.). During the referral process, parent(s) will be asked about their child's current areas of difficulty, child's medical history, family history, child's educational history, etc. Parents are also required to register their child with the Parma City School District in order to complete the referral process and begin the evaluation process. When enrolling their child, parents will need their child's birth certificate, immunization records, proof of residency and custody papers (if applicable.)
- Step 2--Screening: The child will participate in a screening that is completed through play and informal assessments.
   The screening typically involves a special education teacher, speech-language pathologist, occupational therapist, and school psychologist. The purpose of the





screening is to determine whether or not a	n education
disability is suspected and to determine wh	at
developmental areas will require further te	sting.

- Step 3--Home or Preschool/Daycare Observation: A special education teacher will observe the child either within the home or at daycare/preschool setting, if possible. Observation allows us to view the child's skills in another setting.
- Step 4--Play-Based Assessment: The child will return to
  First Step Preschool to participate in an assessment of his
  or her skills. This assessment will be completed through
  play activities as well as through the use of
  norm-referenced assessments. Your child may be
  evaluated by a speech-language pathologist, occupational
  therapist, physical therapist, and/or school psychologist,
  depending on developmental concerns. The child will also
  participate in a vision and hearing screening with the
  school nurse.
- Step 4--Evaluation Team Report (ETR) Meeting: The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether or not the child meets criteria for an educational disability. The ETR describes the child's needs based on the evaluation that was completed as well as suggestions for instruction. All evaluation results will be reviewed with the parent(s) and the parent(s) will receive a copy. The child does not need to be present for this meeting.
- **Step 5--Individualized Education Plan (IEP) Meeting:** The purpose of this meeting is to determine what goals and





services would be appropriate to meet the child's needs. The IEP includes the child's present levels of performance, annual goals, and a description of the special education services that will be provided (including related services). Once this document is completed and signed, the child will begin receiving special education services.	
	The IEP includes the child's present levels of performance, annual goals, and a description of the special education services that will be provided (including related services).  Once this document is completed and signed, the child will