

A Healthy Beginning for Young California Kids: Universal Developmental & Behavioral Screenings

Identifying concerns and intervening early **boosts child success** and **reduces health and education system costs**



Nearly **85%** of brain development happens in the first three years of life

Infants and toddlers rapidly grow and gain skills in many areas simultaneously:



gross & fine motor



cognitive & problem-solving



social & emotional



speech & language

Pediatricians recommend all children be screened routinely between birth and age three



Fewer than **1 in 3** young children in California receive timely developmental screenings



1 in 4 CA kids under age 6 are at moderate- or high-risk for developmental, behavioral, or social delays, but

California

can do better!

CA ranks **30th**

in the nation on the rate of infant & toddler developmental screenings

2 in 5 CA parents

with children under age 6 report having concerns about their child's physical, behavioral, or social development



Routine screenings of children's development during a health care visit help guide referrals to the services children need, resulting in cost-effective care and better outcomes for kids

