



# The management of early childhood physical development centers at the regional level

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## Abstract

**Objective of the study** was to pinpoint the unique features of the management of early childhood development centers in the Sverdlovsk region.

**Methods and structure of the study.** Theoretical and practical approaches are employed. The research is grounded in the analysis of the operations of the pilot project «Centers for Early Physical Development of Children» in the Sverdlovsk region, which was established in accordance with the order of the Ministry of Sports of Russia, dated November 30, 2022, No. 1119. Within the framework of the pilot project, in 2023, efforts were made to identify and select children with exceptional athletic abilities.

**Results and conclusions.** A plan has been created for the operation of early physical development centers for children, which includes: the creation of supplementary general development programs in the area of physical culture and sports; the training (re-training) of personnel to support the operations of early physical development centers; the preparation of legal regulations to determine the locations of study; and the establishment of state and municipal assignments.

**Keywords:** *early physical development centers, selection of sports-gifted children, additional general development programs, physical education and sports, regulatory and legal regulation.*

**Introduction.** The topic of development of children's and youth sports is included in the list of strategically important areas of the industry, which are given priority attention, starting with regulatory framework [1]. In this regard, we have determined the need to analyze the existing experience and determine the prospects for the activities of early physical development centers for children in the Sverdlovsk region. As part of the activities of the model site on the topic of «Early Physical Development Centers for Children» in 2023 and the work organized on it for the individual selection of gifted children, it became possible to identify mechanisms for attracting children to early physical development centers in the Sverdlovsk region.

Objective of the study was to pinpoint the unique features of the management of early childhood development centers in the Sverdlovsk region.

**Methods and structure of the study.** The study included an analysis of: regulatory and strategic documents at the federal and regional levels in the field of

physical culture and sports; statistical materials on the results of testing children on the hardware and software complex «Become a Champion» (hereinafter referred to as the «Become a Champion» hardware and software complex), conducted as part of the activities of a model site based on two centers (the Regional Center for the Development of Physical Culture and Sports in Yekaterinburg and the Center for the Development of Physical Culture and Sports in Kamensk-Uralskiy) in 2023; feedback received from parents, who were given recommendations on choosing a sport for their children.

**Results of the study and discussion.** In accordance with the order of the Ministry of Sports of Russia dated November 30, 2022 No. 1119, the activities of a model site on the topic «Centers for early physical development of children» were organized in the Sverdlovsk region. The activities to create centers for early physical development in the Sverdlovsk region are organized in accordance with regulatory documents



at the federal level: subparagraph «b» of paragraph 4 of the List of instructions of the President of the Russian Federation dated October 7, 2021 No. Pr-1919 (to ensure legal regulation of the status and activities of centers for early physical development of children, paying particular attention to the organization of the activities of such centers in the systems of general education and additional education of children) [1]; subparagraph «k-2» of paragraph 1 of the List of instructions of the President of the Russian Federation dated March 27, 2019 No. Pr-759 (creation of centers for early physical development of children (starting from the age of two) [2]; subparagraph «a-9» of paragraph 2 of the List of instructions of the President of the Russian Federation following the meeting of the Council for the Development of Physical Culture and Sports dated October 30, 2020 No. Pr-1760 (increasing the number of centers for early physical development of children (starting from the age of two), including in preschool educational organizations) [3]; Federal Law dated December 4, 2007 No. 329-FZ «On Physical Culture and Sports in the Russian Federation»; Federal Law dated December 29, 2012 No. 273-FZ «On Education in the Russian Federation», etc.

As part of the activities of the model site based on two centers (Regional Center for the Development of Physical Culture and Sports in Yekaterinburg and the Center for the Development of Physical Culture and Sports of the City of Kamensk-Uralsky) in 2023, activities were organized for the individual selection of sports-gifted children using the hardware and software complex «Become a Champion». To organize this activity, at the initiative of the Ministry of Physical Culture and Sports of the Sverdlovsk Region, the work «Organization of work on the individual selection of sports-gifted children, including in relation to disabled children and persons with disabilities» was included in the regional list (classifier) of state (municipal) services and works.

The website of the Ministry of Physical Culture and Sports of the Sverdlovsk Region (the website audience is over 80 thousand people per month) contains information about testing on the «Become a Champion» APK. Registration for testing is carried out through the website and by phone at the organizations. Testing is carried out by qualified specialists (each center has two specialists) by appointment and includes four stages:

1) anthropometric examination (assessment of physical development; assessment of body composition, musculoskeletal system; determination of constitution and proportions);

2) functional examination (determination of propensity for physical activity; determination of the type of physical activity; assessment of lung capacity; blood pressure measurement);

3) psychophysiological examination (determination of the speed of sensorimotor reaction; assessment of control of voluntary movements; assessment of the properties of the nervous system: strength, mobility, balance);

4) sports testing (determination of strength, speed, coordination abilities; vestibular stability; determination of physical performance). Based on the testing results, a conclusion is issued with recommendations on the choice of sport, the results of the tests, including in the context of fulfilling the standards of the GTO Complex. Also, in the Regional Center for the Development of Physical Culture and Sports, parents are additionally given the opportunity to receive a consultation with a psychologist and a sports doctor based on the testing results. Over the entire period of using the «Become a Champion» APK, more than 800 children have been tested, including more than 340 people in 2024. The «Become a Champion» APK issues recommendations for practicing 52 sports. The results obtained showed that the leading place in terms of the presence of a tendency (good and best degree) to practice among sports is occupied by combat sports and complex coordination sports: about 24% and 22%, respectively.

According to the results of testing for the entire period of training in martial arts (priority – wushu and karate) as the most preferred sports are recommended by 23% of those tested in Yekaterinburg and 26% in Kamensk-Uralskiy; training in complex coordination sports (dance sport and acrobatic rock and roll prevail in the recommendations) are preferred by 21% of those tested in Yekaterinburg and 23% in Kamensk-Uralskiy.

A tendency to engage in cyclic sports was revealed in 22% of children who were tested. At the same time, the share of these recommendations in the city of Yekaterinburg is higher than in Kamensk-Uralskiy (22% and 21%, respectively).

Recommendations for choosing team sports as the most preferred make up an insignificant part, their total weight is about 10% (11% in the city of Yekaterinburg and 8% in Kamensk-Uralskiy). It should be noted separately that about 6% of children who passed the test were recommended to take general physical training classes due to weak indicators of physical development. It is noteworthy that in the city of Yekaterin-



burg this figure is lower than in Kamensk-Uralskiy (3% and 10%, respectively).

Based on the results of testing, feedback was received from the parents of children who passed the test: more than 70% of those tested who received recommendations on choosing a sport began classes in sports schools according to sports training programs for the recommended sports. At the same time, the share of those who began in the region is slightly higher than in the regional center (75% and 70%, respectively). In Yekaterinburg, there are 30 organizations implementing additional educational programs for sports training, and in the city of Kamensk-Uralskiy – 3. One of the reasons for the lower percentage in Yekaterinburg may be the presence of an extensive network of organizations providing services for sports, including on a paid basis. The development of promising areas of activity for early physical development centers for children was carried out in accordance with the regulatory framework on this issue.

Article 84 of Federal Law 273-FZ «On Education in the Russian Federation» defines the main activity of early physical development centers for children as the implementation of preschool education programs and additional general development programs in the field of physical education and sports, which determines the interdepartmental and intersectoral nature of the activity «education – physical education and sports». At the same time, Order No. 986 of the Ministry of Sports of the Russian Federation dated 04.10.2024 «On approval of the specifics of the activities of early physical development centers» provides for the need to assess children's abilities to engage in relevant sports, including using the hardware and software complex «Become a Champion». Also, paragraph 4.6. The methodological recommendations for the development of sports with low-cost sports equipment, sports inventory and equipment, operation of sports facilities and sports structures, approved by the Minister of Sports of the Russian Federation, recommend providing for a state (municipal) assignment for additional general development programs in the field of physical education and sports in state and municipal organizations implementing additional educational programs for sports training. In this regard, in accordance with the requirements of the current legislation, a roadmap has been developed in the Sverdlovsk Region for organizing the activities of early physical development centers for children, providing for: development of additional general development programs in the field of physical education and sports; organi-

zation of training (retraining) of personnel to ensure the activities of early physical development centers; preparation of regulatory legal acts on determining places of training; formation of a state and municipal assignment.

**Conclusions.** In order to achieve maximum coverage of children by the activities of the early development center in the Sverdlovsk region, it is proposed to:

- supplement the statutory types of activities of state organizations implementing additional educational programs for sports training with activities to implement additional general development programs in the field of physical education and sports and determine the corresponding state assignment for these organizations;

- organize similar work on the basis of municipal organizations implementing additional educational programs for sports training with the formation of a corresponding municipal assignment;

- work out the issue of gradually equipping 100% of municipalities located in the Sverdlovsk region with the hardware and software complex «Become a Champion» (73 municipalities). A relevant mechanism for solving this problem is the use of the existing network of GTO Complex testing centers in the region (84 GTO Complex testing centers in all municipalities);

- organize work on amending the state and municipal programs for the development of physical education and sports.

## References

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