

10.16.3011 CRITERIA FOR AUTISM

A student must have at least one characteristic in each of the three areas of social communication; social interaction; and in restricted and repetitive behaviors and interests.

A student must have a total of eight or more characteristics to be identified as a student with autism.

The characteristics below are those which most frequently occur with the student but may not occur in every situation.

Significant difficulties in social communication must be documented for at least one of the following characteristics:

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| YES | NO | Initiating or maintaining eye contact while interacting with others; |
| YES | NO | Use of facial expressions to communicate with others; |
| YES | NO | Identifying and/or understanding the communicative intent of another person's facial expressions; |
| YES | NO | Using gestures to direct attention to an object (for example: showing, bringing or pointing out objects of interest); |
| YES | NO | Using gestures for communication; |
| YES | NO | Responding to or interpreting other's use of gestures; |
| YES | NO | Noticing or interpreting other's use of body language; |
| YES | NO | Use of own body language for communication; |
| YES | NO | Expressive verbal or alternative communication; |
| YES | NO | Receptive verbal communication; or |
| YES | NO | Interpretation of other's verbal communication (often concrete and literal; for example: does not understand idioms or sarcasm). |

Significant difficulties in social interaction must be documented for at least one of the following characteristics:

- YES NO Seeking to share enjoyment, interests, or achievements with others;
- YES NO Initiating social interaction unless seeking preferred items or help;
- YES NO Responding to social interactions initiated by others;
- YES NO Initiating a conversation on non-preferred topics;
- YES NO Sustaining a conversation on non-preferred topics;
- YES NO Explaining another person's perspective (for example: what other people are thinking or feeling);
- YES NO Joining play activities of others (solitary play preferred);
- YES NO Play lacks elements of make-believe;
- YES NO Participating in make-believe play with others; or
- YES NO Engaging in social imitative play (for example: playacting, fantasy characters, animals, pretending adult role).

Significant difficulties resulting from restricted and repetitive behaviors and interests must be documented for at least one of the following characteristics:

- YES NO Makes repeated vocalizations or verbalizations (for example: repeats same word, phrase or sound);
- YES NO Persistent preoccupation with specific objects or parts of objects;
- YES NO Engages in repeated, repetitive movements with objects such as sticks or string, lining up toys, flipping objects, spinning objects;
- YES NO Preoccupation with particular interests causes difficulties in social interaction and/or academic performance;
- YES NO Resists when asked to discontinue preferred or special interest activity;
- YES NO Prefers consistency and resists expected and/or unexpected changes (for example: changing activities, leaving activity unfinished, changes in routine or daily schedule); or
- YES NO Engages in repetitive physical behaviors such as body rocking, spinning self, finger flicking, hand flapping.

Does the student have at least one characteristic in each of these three areas:

YES NO social communication;
YES NO social interaction;
YES NO restricted and repetitive behaviors and interests.

Total number of characteristics in all three areas: ____ (must have eight or more).

Student Name: _____ **Evaluation Meeting Date:** _____

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED TEAM MEMBERS:

Required team members for the determination of autism must be a school psychologist and a speech-language pathologist, each of whom is qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of children.

Psychologist Name: _____

Speech-Language Pathologist Name: _____

10.16.3010 CRITERIA FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY

- The student is at least three (3) and not yet nine (9) years old.

The student functions at a developmental level:

- Two or more standard deviations below the norm in any ONE of the following areas of development:

- adaptive functioning skills cognitive development
 communication development physical development
 social and emotional development

or

- 1.5 or more standard deviations below the norm in TWO OR MORE of the following areas of development:

- adaptive functioning skills cognitive development
 communication development physical development
 social and emotional development

Documentation of a developmental delay must include:

- Appropriate developmental assessment that addressed each of the areas above.
- Observation of the student's communication development and social and emotional development in a classroom or other group setting.

Student Name: _____ **Evaluation Meeting Date:** _____

10.16.3012 CRITERIA FOR COGNITIVE DELAY

Yes No The student has a significantly subaverage general intellectual functioning; **and**

Yes No Corresponding deficits in adaptive behavior and educational performance, especially in the area of application of basic academic skills in daily life activities.

Yes No The presence of subaverage general intellectual functioning must occur between conception and the 18th birthday.

DEFINITIONS:

"General intellectual functioning" means performance on a standardized intelligence test that measures general cognitive ability rather than one limited facet of ability.

"Significantly subaverage general intellectual functioning" is defined as two or more standard deviations below the population mean on a standardized intelligence test. Error in test measurement requires clinical judgment for students who score near two standard deviations below the mean.

"Deficits in adaptive behavior" is defined as significant limitations in the student's effectiveness in meeting the standards of personal independence, interpersonal communication, and social responsibility expected for the student's age/grade peers and cultural group as measured by standardized instruments or professionally recognized scales.

Student Name: _____

Evaluation Meeting Date: _____

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED TEAM MEMBER:

A required team member for the determination of cognitive delay must be a school psychologist, whom is qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of children.

Psychologist Name: _____

10.16.3013 CRITERIA FOR DEAF-BLINDNESS

The student:

- Yes No Meets the criteria in ARM 10.16.3022 for visual impairment;
- Yes No Meets the criteria in ARM 10.16.3020 for speech-language impairment;
- Yes No Meets the criteria in ARM 10.16.3016 for hearing impairment or in ARM 10.16.3014 for deafness; **and**
- Yes No Is experiencing severe delays in communication and other developmental and educational skills such that services designed solely for students with deafness or for students with blindness would not meet the student's educational needs.

Student Name: _____ **Evaluation Meeting Date:** _____

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED TEAM MEMBER:

A required team member for the determination of deaf-blindness must be a speech-language pathologist, whom is qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of children.

Speech-Language Pathologist Name: _____

10.16.3014 CRITERIA FOR DEAFNESS

Yes No An audiological report documents that hearing loss is so severe that the student is impaired in processing linguistic information, with or without amplification, to the extent that prevents the auditory channel from being the primary mode of learning speech and language.

Yes No The student's educational performance is adversely affected as documented by specific examples:

The results and analysis of a current assessment of language development, as measured by standardized tests or professionally recognized scales appropriate to age level and administered individually, is required to show an impairment in processing linguistic information prior to identification.

DEFINITIONS:

"Adversely affect the student's educational performance" means that there is evidence that measures of student performance (e.g., achievement tests, grades, behavioral assessments, analysis of classroom assignments, or criterion-referenced tests, etc.) indicate a pattern of educational attainment that can wholly or in part be attributed to the disabling condition.

Student Name: _____ **Evaluation Meeting Date:** _____

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED TEAM MEMBERS:

Required team members for the determination of deafness must be a speech-language pathologist or an audiologist, each of whom is qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of children.

Speech-Language Pathologist Name: _____ **or;**

Audiologist Name: _____

10.16.3015 CRITERIA FOR EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE

A condition, which includes one or more of the following characteristics, is present:

- Yes No An inability to build or maintain satisfactory relationships with peers and teachers;
- Yes No Inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances, including behaviors which are psychotic or bizarre in nature or behaviors which are atypical and for which no observable reason exists;
- Yes No A general, pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression, including major depression and dysthymia, but excluding normal grief reactions;
- Yes No A tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems, including separation anxiety, avoidant disorder and overanxious disorder;
- Yes No Schizophrenia.

Each of the conditions above shall meet the criteria of having been present:

- Yes No To a marked degree,
- Yes No Over a long period of time, **and**
- Yes No Adversely affecting the student's educational performance.
- Yes No The student has been observed in more than one setting within the educational environment; **and**
- Yes No The local education agency has planned and implemented one or more positive behavioral interventions specific to the individual student.

Interventions shall not unnecessarily delay appropriate identification when it can be shown through a student's social or developmental history, compiled directly from the student's parents or from records when the parents are not available, the existence of characteristics that clearly identify emotional disturbance.

EXCLUSIONARY FACTORS:

The student may not be identified as having emotional disturbance if:

Delays in educational performance are primarily due to visual impairment, hearing impairment, orthopedic impairment, cognitive delay, health factors, cultural factors or limited educational opportunity.

Common disciplinary problems may exist in conjunction with emotional disturbance, but cannot be used as the sole criteria for determining the existence of an emotional disturbance.

The term emotional disturbance does not apply to students who are socially maladjusted, unless it is determined that they meet the criteria for emotional disturbance.

DEFINITIONS:

"Adversely affect the student's educational performance" means that there is evidence that measures of student performance (e.g., achievement tests, grades, behavioral assessments, analysis of classroom assignments, or criterion-referenced tests, etc.) indicate a pattern of educational attainment that can wholly or in part be attributed to the disabling condition.

Student Name: _____ **Evaluation Meeting Date:** _____

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED TEAM MEMBER:

A required team member for the determination of cognitive delay must be a school psychologist, whom is qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of children.

Psychologist Name: _____

10.16.3016 CRITERIA FOR HEARING IMPAIRMENT

Yes No An audiological report documents a permanent hearing loss in excess of 20 dB better ear average in the speech range (500, 1,000, 2,000 Hz), unaided, **or**

Yes No A history of fluctuating hearing loss which has interrupted the normal acquisition of speech and language and continues to adversely affect educational performance.

DEFINITIONS:

"Adversely affect the student's educational performance" means that there is evidence that measures of student performance (e.g., achievement tests, grades, behavioral assessments, analysis of classroom assignments, or criterion-referenced tests, etc.) indicate a pattern of educational attainment that can wholly or in part be attributed to the disabling condition.

Student Name: _____ **Evaluation Meeting Date:** _____

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED TEAM MEMBERS:

Required team members for the determination of deafness must be a speech-language pathologist or an audiologist, each of whom is qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of children.

Speech-Language Pathologist Name: _____ **or;**

Audiologist Name: _____

10.16.3017 CRITERIA FOR ORTHOPEDIC IMPAIRMENT

Yes No The student is diagnosed by a qualified medical practitioner as having an orthopedic impairment.

Yes No The impairment is severe; **and**

Yes No The impairment adversely affects the student's educational performance.

DEFINITIONS:

The term orthopedic impairment includes impairments caused by congenital anomaly (e.g., clubfoot, absence of some member, etc.), impairments caused by disease (e.g., poliomyelitis, bone tuberculosis, etc.), and impairments from other causes (e.g., cerebral palsy, amputations, and fractures or burns that cause contractures).

"Adversely affect the student's educational performance" means that there is evidence that measures of student performance (e.g., achievement tests, grades, behavioral assessments, analysis of classroom assignments, or criterion-referenced tests, etc.) indicate a pattern of educational attainment that can wholly or in part be attributed to the disabling condition.

Student Name: _____ **Evaluation Meeting Date:** _____

10.16.3018 CRITERIA FOR OTHER HEALTH IMPAIRMENT

- Yes No The student has limited strength, vitality or alertness, including a heightened alertness to environmental stimuli that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment, that is due to chronic or acute health problems such as asthma, attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, diabetes, epilepsy, a heart condition, hemophilia, lead poisoning, leukemia, nephritis, rheumatic fever, sickle cell anemia or tuberculosis; **and**
- Yes No The condition adversely affects the student's educational performance.
- Yes No The student has a medical diagnosis of a chronic or acute health problem. (REQUIRED)

DEFINITIONS:

"Adversely affect the student's educational performance" means that there is evidence that measures of student performance (e.g., achievement tests, grades, behavioral assessments, analysis of classroom assignments, or criterion-referenced tests, etc.) indicate a pattern of educational attainment that can wholly or in part be attributed to the disabling condition.

Student Name: _____ **Evaluation Meeting Date:** _____

10.16.3019(a) CRITERIA FOR SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITY

RESPONSE TO SCIENTIFIC, RESEARCH-BASED INTERVENTION (Rtl)

Yes No The student has been provided learning experiences appropriate to the student's age or grade-level based on state-approved K-12 content standards.

Yes No The student did not make sufficient progress to meet age or grade level based on state-approved K-12 content standards in one or more of the following areas. (check each area in which the student did not make sufficient progress):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> basic reading skills | <input type="checkbox"/> oral expression |
| <input type="checkbox"/> reading comprehension | <input type="checkbox"/> written expression |
| <input type="checkbox"/> reading fluency skills | <input type="checkbox"/> mathematics calculation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> listening comprehension | <input type="checkbox"/> mathematics problem solving |

Yes No The student was determined to have a specific learning disability based on an insufficient response to scientific, research-based interventions resulting in a low level of academic achievement.

Yes No Insufficient response to interventions occurred when, despite the implementation of the interventions over a sustained period of time, the student did not achieve adequately based on the student's age or grade level based on state-approved K-12 content standards.

Scientific, research based interventions were:

Yes No Matched to the specific needs of the student as identified through systematic, data-based processes for examining the presenting problem, including parental input, to identify instructional interventions that have a high likelihood of success;

Yes No Focused on changing the instructional strategies or techniques used with the student; and

Yes No Regularly monitored for student progress and correct implementation via regular and frequent data collection, and analyzed and modified as necessary based on data analysis.

In determining the response to scientific research-based interventions the evaluation team considered data:

Yes No regarding how appropriately the intervention was delivered by qualified personnel, and

Yes No comparing the student's rate of learning and current levels of performance with the student's initial levels of performance.

Yes No The student did not make sufficient response to scientific, research-based interventions, and

Yes No The level of intervention necessary to sustain the response can only be provided through special education services.

Documentation also includes:

Yes No The scientific, research based interventions and instructional strategies used; and

Yes No The student-centered data collected during the Implementation of at least two intensive individualized interventions implemented for a sustained period of time.

Yes No The evaluation team documented the student's academic performance in the regular classroom setting through observation.

Yes No Requirements for documentation of observation were met by observation of routine classroom instruction and monitoring of the student's performance that was done before the child was referred for an evaluation, or

Yes No at least one member of the evaluation team conducted an observation of the child's academic performance in the regular classroom after the child has been referred for an evaluation and parental consent was obtained.

Yes No Not Applicable

If the student was younger than school age or out of school, an evaluation team member observed the student in an environment appropriate for a student of that age.

Yes No Educationally relevant medical findings, if any, were considered; **and**

Yes No Two or more interventions specific to the individual student were implemented.

Yes No Interventions did not unnecessarily delay appropriate identification.

EXCLUSIONARY FACTORS:

The student may not be identified as having a specific learning disability if the student's significantly low rate of progress in meeting age or grade level based on state approved K-12 content standards is primarily the result of a visual, hearing, or motor impairment; cognitive delay; emotional disturbance; environmental or economic disadvantage; cultural factors; or a lack of appropriate instruction.

Student Name: _____ **Evaluation Meeting Date:** _____

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED TEAM MEMBERS:

Required team members for the determination of specific learning disability must be a school psychologist, a speech-language pathologist, or a remedial reading teacher, each of whom is qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of children.

Psychologist Name: _____ **or;**

Speech-Language Pathologist Name: _____ **or;**

Remedial Reading Teacher Name: _____

10.16.3019(b) CRITERIA FOR SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITY

SEVERE DISCREPANCY

Yes No The student has been provided learning experiences appropriate to the student's age or grade-level based on state approved K-12 content standards.

Yes No The student did not make sufficient progress to meet age or grade level based on state-approved K-12 content standards in one or more of the following areas (check each area in which the student did not make sufficient progress):

<input type="checkbox"/> basic reading skills	<input type="checkbox"/> oral expression
<input type="checkbox"/> reading comprehension	<input type="checkbox"/> written expression
<input type="checkbox"/> reading fluency skills	<input type="checkbox"/> mathematics calculation
<input type="checkbox"/> listening comprehension	<input type="checkbox"/> mathematics problem solving

Yes No The student was determined to have a specific learning disability based on a severe discrepancy between the student's intellectual ability and achievement in one or more of the areas listed in ARM 10.16.3019.

Documentation also includes:

Yes No The evaluation team documented the student's academic performance in the regular classroom setting through observation.

Yes No Requirements for documentation of observation were met by observation of routine classroom instruction and monitoring of the student's performance that was done before the child was referred for an evaluation, or

Yes No At least one member of the evaluation team conducted an observation of the child's academic performance in the regular classroom after the child has been referred for an evaluation and parental consent was obtained.

Yes No Not Applicable

If the student was younger than school age or out of school, an evaluation team member observed the student in an environment appropriate for a student of that age.

Yes No Educationally relevant medical findings, if any, were considered; **and**

Yes No Two or more interventions specific to the individual student were implemented.

Yes No Interventions did not unnecessarily delay appropriate identification.

EXCLUSIONARY FACTORS:

The student may not be identified as having a specific learning disability if the student's significantly low rate of progress in meeting age or grade level based on state-approved K-12 content standards is primarily the result of a visual, hearing, or motor impairment; cognitive delay; emotional disturbance; environmental or economic disadvantage; cultural factors; or a lack of appropriate instruction.

DEFINITIONS:

(a) A severe discrepancy is defined as a 50 percent or higher probability of a two standard deviation discrepancy between general cognitive ability and achievement in one or more of the areas identified in ARM 10.16.3019 when adjusted for regression to the population mean. (b) Error in test measurement requires judgment for students who score near two standard deviations below the population mean. When exercising this judgment, consideration of additional information, such as classroom performance relative to the student's performance on norm-referenced tests, shall be used as the basis for determining the severe discrepancy.

(c) Alternatives to norm-referenced tests, such as curriculum-based assessments, shall be utilized to determine severe discrepancy whenever cultural factors, test conditions, size of test item sampling for the student's age, or other factors render standardized assessment results invalid. When utilizing alternative assessment procedures, a determination must still be made that a discrepancy between ability and achievement exists at a level of severity similar in size to the discrepancy that would have otherwise been found as described in (a) above.

Student Name: _____ **Evaluation Meeting Date:** _____

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED TEAM MEMBERS:

Required team members for the determination of specific learning disability must be a school psychologist, a speech-language pathologist, or a remedial reading teacher, each of whom is qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of children.

Psychologist Name: _____ **or;**

Speech-Language Pathologist Name: _____ **or;**

Remedial Reading Teacher Name: _____

For Informational Purposes Only

10.16.3020 CRITERIA FOR SPEECH-LANGUAGE IMPAIRMENT

- Yes No The student has a significant deviation in speech such as fluency, articulation or voice, **or**
- Yes No The student has a significant deviation in the ability to decode or encode oral language which involves phonology, morphology, semantics or pragmatics or a combination thereof.
- Yes No Documentation of the student's interpersonal communication effectiveness in a variety of educational settings by the teacher, parent, speech-language pathologist, and others as appropriate supports the adverse educational effect of the speech-language impairment or oral communication in a classroom or school setting.

EXCLUSIONARY FACTORS:

The student may not be identified as having a speech-language impairment if the speech or language problems primarily result from environmental or cultural factors.

DEFINITIONS:

The student has a significant deviation in oral performance if the student's performance on standardized test is two standard deviations below the population mean, or between 1.5 and two standard deviations below the population mean, and there is documented evidence over a six month period prior to the current evaluation of no improvement in the speech-language performance of the student even with regular classroom interventions.

For articulation, a significant deviation is consistent articulation errors persisting one year beyond the highest age when 90 percent of the students have acquired the sounds based upon specific developmental norms.

If norm-referenced procedures are not used, alternative assessment procedures shall substantiate a significant deviation from the norm.

Student Name: _____ **Evaluation Meeting Date:** _____

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED TEAM MEMBER:

A Required team member for the determination of speech-language impairment must be a speech-language pathologist, whom is qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of children.

Speech-Language Pathologist Name: _____

For Informational Purposes Only

10.16.3021 CRITERIA FOR TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

Yes No The student has an acquired injury to the brain caused by external physical force which substantially limits the student's functional or psychosocial ability or both **and** the student's ability to learn or participate in the general education curriculum.

EXCLUSIONARY FACTORS:

The student may not be identified as having a traumatic brain injury if the injury to the brain is congenital, degenerative, or caused by birth trauma.

DEFINITIONS:

The term traumatic brain injury applies to open or closed head injuries resulting in impairments in one or more areas such as cognition, language, memory, attention, reasoning, abstract thinking, judgment, problem-solving, sensory, perceptual, and motor abilities, psycho-social behavior, physical function, information processing, and speech.

Student Name: _____ **Evaluation Meeting Date:** _____

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED TEAM MEMBERS:

Required team members for the determination of traumatic brain injury must be a school psychologist and a speech-language pathologist, each of whom is qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of children.

Psychologist Name: _____

Speech-Language Pathologist Name: _____

10.16.3022 CRITERIA FOR VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

Yes No The student has an impairment in vision that, even with correction, adversely affects the student's educational performance;

or

Yes No The student has a medically indicated expectation of visual deterioration that would qualify the child as having a visual impairment as described above

Student Name: _____

Evaluation Meeting Date: _____

For Informational Purposes Only