

Responses for Other Eligibility Requirements for Physical Therapy

- delays have to interfere with EDUCATIONAL Goals...not just medical treatment
- skills/ performance falls in below average range on PDMS2 or BOT2
- Qualify for special education services
- School Function Assessment for Elementary is used. For preschool, it is a team decision based on %of delay and how functional mobility is affected. Access issues, modifications, and ability to negotiate the educational environment are all considered. PT services must be related to the educational needs of the student.
- 12 month delay in Gross motor area. Functional difficulties (ex. Falling on stairs or in hall)
- Gross motor limitations that prevent a student from accessing and/or fully participating in his educational program
- More than 1 year delay on age standardized tests
- I use a combination of standardized test results, transfers and mobility in classroom/playground, observation, and consideration of parent/staff reported gross motor issues.
- Inability to access at least a portion of the educational environment- ie- PE, playground, stairs, cafeteria, upright posture in classroom, independent navigation of the hallway, etc.
- The student needs to qualify for special education services, and the PT/OT are part of the evaluation team if deemed appropriate. If the team finds that the student has needs in the educational setting that can best be met by having PT/OT on the team, then the IEP is developed with those services in mind, whether direct or indirect minutes. Students do NOT "qualify for PT or OT"; rather the services of a PT or OT are needed to help the student benefit from his or her education.
- 50 percent delay on standardized test
- Use of a Standard PT Eval. and Brigance Inventory
- The documented need (through the evaluation process) the PT as a related service is required to benefit from special education and participation in the general education curriculum and functional activities.
- Specific delays that do not allow student to safely participate in school activities
- Special Ed. student who displays difficulty with accessing or participating in school-related functional activities and/or failure to meet an IEP goal due to an impairment which requires the specific expertise of a PT (after attempts have been attempted and have proven unsuccessful by local school staff)
- must have goals and objectives that require the need for OT and/or PT services
- Age of student, availability of therapist
- physician diagnosis of specific neuromuscular or musculoskeletal pathology
- Children are often qualified with mild delays due to sensory problems. wondering if that is trend across the country or are we overqualifying children for PT?
- 50% delay in 2 or more areas of standardized test
- Professional judgement