



Determining Educationally Relevant OT and PT

Georgia Department of Education
Divisions for Special Education Services and Supports
1870 Twin Towers East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

Background

- January 2009
 - Requests were expressed over need for state guidance on educationally relevant therapy
- March 2009
 - Statewide Elluminate session held (over 200 therapists)
 - Therapists validated concerns and need for more direction from state
- November 2009
 - OT/PT workgroup created from session participants
- January 2010
 - Workgroup met to develop the guidance tool and document

“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”

Educationally Relevant Therapy VS Medical Model Therapy

- Why is this distinction important?
 - Clarification of requirements by IDEA
 - OT/PT as a related service
 - Intent of the Law
 - The term “related services” means transportation, and such developmental, corrective, and other supportive services (including ... physical and occupational therapy, ... as may be required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education,...
- Educate parents, medical providers, and other educational personnel and other support groups.

“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”

COMPARISON DOCUMENT

“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”

Introduction to the CERT

(Considerations for Educationally Relevant Therapy)

“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”

Discussion of CERT

- Where Did It Come From?
- Why Use It?
 - 26 years of use by school-based therapists
 - Been through 2 revisions based on therapists' use
 - Solid track record
 - Accountability for Due Process
 - Provides a methodology for the decision making process
 - Creates consistency across the state
 - Parents can see the steps in how the decision is made about service time

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

What is the CERT?

- NOT AN ASSESSMENT !
- Guidance tool for determining the need for educationally relevant therapy and appropriate time required to support the IEP goals/objectives
- Summary of educational considerations based on a review of
 - student records, evaluations, observations, progress notes, parent/teacher information, and other data
- Completed in the IEP meeting with the input of all committee members

“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”



CERT Training Video

<http://www.fldoe.org/ese/cert.asp>

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."

Hands-On Application of the CERT

Florida Department of Education
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

Considerations for Educationally Relevant Therapy

OCCUPATIONAL AND PHYSICAL THERAPY SUMMARY SHEET

Student: _____ D.O.B.: _____ School District: _____

ESE Program(s): _____ Related Service(s): Occupational Therapy Physical Therapy

	Points	Sources of Information and Additional Comments
Student Profile	Personal Care	
	Mobility	
	Gross Motor	
	Fine Motor/Visual Motor	
	Sensory Processing	
Total Points:		Completed by: _____ Date: _____

To be completed at IEP meeting

According to 34 CFR 300.24, related services such as occupational and physical therapy are provided to assist the student with a disability to benefit from special education. The student's priority educational needs and goals and objectives identified on the IEP that require the support of an occupational therapist or physical therapist are:

	Points	Sources of Information and Additional Comments
Therapy Profile	Number of Years Student Has Received Educationally Relevant Therapy	
	Potential Response to Educationally Relevant Therapy	
	Student's Learning Environment	
	Therapy Services to Be Provided to Student	
	Support Services to Be Provided to School Staff/Parents	
Total Points:		Completed by: _____ Date: _____

		Student Profile				
		5-8	9-11	12-14	15-17	18-20
Therapy Profile	18-20					
	15-17					
	12-14					
	9-11					
	5-8					

Recommendation for Therapy Services

Place an X on the horizontal axis to reflect the score on the Student Profile. Place an X on the vertical axis to reflect the score on the Therapy Profile. The point where the axes intersect indicates a recommended frequency of therapy.

Therapist's Signature _____
Print Therapist's Name

Occupational therapy is indicated.

Physical therapy is indicated.

The recommended frequency of therapy is:

not recommended periodic regular intensive

The IEP team recommendation is:

 Occupational therapy is not indicated.

 Physical therapy is not indicated.

Comments: _____

(CERT-Revised 8/04)
ESE 8575

- Nick Spade
- 9th grade
- DOB: 7/11/94
- Empathy County
- Eligibility Category: Moderate ID
- Receiving occupational therapy
- Resource classroom

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."



QUESTIONS

K. Elise Lynch, Program Specialist, GaDOE
404-844-7637
elynch@doe.k12.ga.us

Shelly Howman, MHS OTR/L
Fulton County Schools

Cindy Terry, OTR/L
Gwinnett County Schools

"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."