

SCOTLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION
Board Policy

Instruction**Speech, Hearing and Language Services**

Speech, hearing, and language services are designed to develop communication skills in students whose speech, language or hearing deficits or disabilities are preventing them from accessing the curriculum and participating in language-based activities.

Speech, hearing and language services are provided along a continuum including: screenings for primary grade students, early intervention groups, consultation with staff and families, evaluations and individual and group therapy for students eligible under IDEA.

Teachers or parents may refer students for a speech and language screening when concerns about language development, sound production, fluency or voice are present. Parents will be notified when concerns regarding their child's speech and language skills result in referral for speech and language services. If the results of the screening indicate an area of concern, an early intervention plan is formulated to address those needs. If the plan is unsuccessful, the student is then referred by SRBI/parents to PPT. The PPT will review the referral and make recommendations concerning the need for a speech and language evaluation. For students with significant language disabilities, services may also include evaluations in the area of augmentative communication, the development of alternative communication systems as well as the provision of augmentative communication devices.

For a student to be found eligible for special education in the area of speech and language, there must be a significant deficit in the identified area of communication. In addition, the identified deficit must have an adverse impact on educational performance so that the student does not perform effectively despite the provision of general education modifications and supports.

Those students found eligible for special education will have an IEP developed to address the areas of deficit. Service delivery may include individual and/or group therapy that is provided in a separate setting or classroom-based. Service may also include consultation with families and teachers. Progress on goals and objectives will be evaluated and reported to parents each marking period.

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Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-76a(9) "Related Services"

Individual with Disabilities Education Act 20 U.S.C. 1400-1487

IDEA Regulations 34 C.F.R. part 300 Section 504 Regulations

Sec. 104.35 Evaluation and Placement