



Multiple Disabilities Support 2022-2023 Program Profile

Description

The Multiple Disabilities Support (MDS) classrooms provide students, ages 5-21, with services designed to maximize each student's level of independence in his/her daily life. Classes are offered at the elementary, middle and high school levels and follow a curriculum that focuses primarily on Functional Living and Communication and Language Development. Curriculum and instruction align with PA State Standards. Other components include: augmentative communication/assistive technology, specific feeding programs, individualized motor and sensory programs, and community based instruction.

Placement Criteria

- Student has cognitive, social/behavioral, and communication skills that are significantly below average
- Educational diagnosis of intellectual disability or multiple disabilities
- Need for alternate curriculum versus modification of general education curriculum
- Behavioral/Mental Health needs that cannot be met in Level 1 or 2 service environments
- Requires extensive case management, including interagency coordination

Exit Criteria

- IEP Team decision based on student progress toward IEP goals, acquisition of activities of daily living skills, and continued development of functional communication system

Location

District or center-based class

Staffing

- 1 teacher
- 2 paraprofessionals
- 1: up to 8:2

Staffing ratios may vary depending on the makeup of the class roster.

Services included in tuition fee	IEP Services not included in tuition fee*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensive, direct and explicit instruction in core deficit areas based on individualized assessment and educational planning • Adaptive equipment for general implementation of motor programming (tumble forms, mats, changing tables, lifts, etc.) • Materials and support for augmentative communication • Sensory activities and materials • Application of functional and daily living skills • General personal care, including necessary supplies • Collaboration with special subject teachers • Community-based instruction • Adaptive Physical Education** • Behavior management system • Curriculum based assessment • Progress monitoring to assess progress toward IEP goals • PSSA/PASA administration • Transition planning for students ages 14-21 • Specialized software programs designed to meet unique needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct nursing services for individual students** • Personal Care Assistant (PCA) • Speech and language services, including direct service, SSP and IEP maintenance • Unique, individualized assistive technology needs, including specialized adapted equipment • Feeding Assessment or Consultation • Occupational Therapy services including direct service, SSP and IEP maintenance • Physical Therapy including direct service, SSP and IEP maintenance • Transition/Vocational Assessment • Transition/Vocational Support Services • Job Coaching • Autism support • Blind & Visually Impaired support • Deaf or Hard of Hearing support • Psychiatric consultation and assessment • Extended School Year (ESY) services • Functional Analysis

- Technology hardware and software with associated technical support
- Social work services to assist with interagency coordination, family access to community services, and case management of mental health services; or to provide individual counseling and bi-weekly group counseling.
- Social Work Programmatic Consultation
- Behavior support for students whose needs exceed that which can be met through Educational Coach support time assigned to the class
- Comprehensive positive behavioral support planning, including Functional Behavior Assessments and development of Positive Behavior Support Plans
- Nursing support to develop health plans and coordinate with host district, including mandated health screenings
- Specialized training for all staff
- Psychological services for evaluation/reevaluation
- Psychological Programmatic Consultation
- Technical support from Educational Coaches
- Case management
- Program supervision
- Interagency Coordination Consultation

**Additional fee assessed*
*** May be provided by host district*