



1005 State Street
East St. Louis, IL 62201

East St. Louis Area Joint Agreement
School Districts 188 & 189
Department of Special Services

Phone: (618) 646-3160
Fax: (618) 646-3015

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR MULTIPLE DISABILITIES

“MULTIPLE DISABILITIES” DEFINITION

A concomitant of impairments (such as Intellectual Disability -blindness, Intellectual Disability-orthopedic impairment, etc.), the combination of which causes such severe educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for one of the impairments. The term does not include Deaf-Blindness.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. A child shall have the following two characteristics:
 - a. Meet the standards for two or more identified disabilities and
 - b. Be unable to benefit from services and supports designed for only one of the disabilities, as determined to be primary or secondary disabilities by the IEP team.
2. Children who are classified as having multiple disabilities shall:
 - a. Have a combination of two or more disabilities;
 - b. The nature of the combination of disabilities require significant developmental and educational programming that cannot be accommodated with special education services that primarily serve one area of the disability.

EVALUATION PROCEDURES

1. A child with multiple disabilities shall be evaluated by the procedures for each disability and shall meet the criteria for two or more disabilities.
2. The eligibility team (IEP Team) determines whether the standards have been met. Needed participants for each disability must participate in the eligibility determination for each eligibility category.

EXCLUSIONARY FACTORS

A student will not be considered eligible for services as Multiple Disabilities if one or more of the following exist:

1. The adverse effect is from lack of instruction in reading or math, environmental, cultural or economic disadvantage, or other related factors that are not related to the multiple disabilities identified;
2. The adverse effect is judged to result from absenteeism (unrelated to health) or change in residence or school;
3. The disability is more accurately described by another category of eligibility;
4. The student does not meet the eligibility criteria for “Deaf-Blindness”.

EXIT CRITERIA

Exit decisions must be individualized based on current best practice as determined by the appropriate IEP team members. A student is no longer eligible for special services as a student with Multiple Disabilities when it is determined that:

1. The disabilities no longer have an adverse effect on the student’s educational performance; or
2. A single impairment exists;
3. The student accepts a standard high school graduation diploma upon completion of required goals/objective and credits;
4. Student completes the school year in which he/she reaches the day before 22 years of age

The determination of continued eligibility or non-eligibility is made at the IEP meeting on the basis of the reevaluation.