



## Multiple Disabilities Support 2024-2025 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*  |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intensive, direct, and explicit instruction in core deficit areas based on individualized assessment and educational planning</li><li>• Adaptive equipment for general implementation of motor programming (tumble forms, mats, changing tables, lifts, etc.)</li><li>• Materials and support for augmentative communication</li><li>• Sensory activities and materials</li><li>• Application of functional and daily living skills</li><li>• General personal care, including necessary supplies</li><li>• Collaboration with special subject teachers</li><li>• Community-based instruction</li><li>• Adaptive Physical Education**</li><li>• Behavior management system</li><li>• Curriculum-based assessment</li><li>• Progress monitoring to assess progress toward IEP goals</li><li>• PSSA/PASA administration</li><li>• Transition planning for students ages 14-21</li><li>• Job Coaching</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Direct nursing services for individual students**</li><li>• Personal Care Assistant (PCA)</li><li>• Speech and language services, including direct service, SSP, and IEP maintenance</li><li>• Unique, individualized assistive technology needs, including specialized adapted equipment</li><li>• Feeding Assessment or Consultation</li><li>• Occupational Therapy services including direct service, SSP, and IEP maintenance</li><li>• Physical Therapy including direct service, SSP, and IEP maintenance</li><li>• Transition/Vocational Assessment</li><li>• Transition/Vocational Support Services</li><li>• Autism support</li><li>• Blind &amp; Visually Impaired support</li><li>• Deaf or Hard of Hearing support</li><li>• Psychiatric consultation and assessment</li><li>• Extended School Year (ESY) services</li><li>• Functional Analysis</li></ul> |

- Specialized software programs designed to meet unique needs
- 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*