



FOCUS ON

DOCUMENTING PUPIL & PROGRAM SUPPORT ASSISTANCE IN STUDENT PLANS

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This is the first of two FOCUS Newsletters on Pupil Support Assistance and Program Support Assistance. This newsletter will define these terms and describe the procedures for including these supplementary aids¹ in Student Plans.

The term Pupil Support Assistance will replace the term one to one paraprofessional. The term Program Support Assistance will be used to describe assistance provided to more than one student or a group of students.

Pupil Support Assistance time must be reported to MDE, so it will be necessary to list the frequency, location and duration of this supplementary aid in a separate grid after Student Plans is upgraded. Program Support Assistance can be included in Supplemental Aids text box, however, it is important to specify when the Program Support Assistance will be used and under what conditions (frequency), where it will be used (location) and how often it will be used (duration). IDEIA has required that the anticipated frequency, location, and duration of all adaptations be included in the IEP since 2004.

Definitions

The definitions are as follows:

Pupil Support Assistance – support provided by paraprofessional or other adult to one or two children in the areas of behavior, health, activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living, academics, transition, or functional skills. If the Pupil Support Assistance service involves providing help with Personal Cares (e.g., grooming, eating, mobility, etc.) the specific areas where assistance is being provided should be described in the Supplementary Aids text box.

Program Support Assistance – support provided by a paraprofessional or other adult to more than one child in the areas of behavior, academics, transition, or functional skills. Program Support Assistance services may also be described by site or program on the IEP. These would include ECSE Program Support Assistance, Day Treatment Support Assistance, Behavior Ed Program Support Assistance, SYP Support Assistance, and Clara's House Program Support Assistance.

¹ Supplementary aids and services means aids, services, and other supports that are provided in regular education classes, other education-related settings, and in extracurricular and nonacademic settings, to enable children with disabilities to be educated with nondisabled children to the maximum extent appropriate in accordance with §§300.114 through 300.116 (sections dealing with LRE, Continuum of alternative placements, Placements)

Example 1 – Pupil Support Only

The following example illustrates the use of Pupil Support Assistance as a service to achieve a goal in the area of independent living skills.

The student has a goal to develop a daily living skill to a specific level in a 12 month period.

The teacher provides 40 minutes of service to develop a functional skill (e.g. buying, preparing, consuming food) twice a week.

The teacher spends 15 minutes a day with the paraprofessional to adapt materials three days a week.

The paraprofessional implements the curriculum activities for an additional 30 minutes each day, five days a week. The paraprofessional is also providing assistance with personal cares and behavior for the remainder of the day (360 minutes – 300 in the special education setting and 60 in the general education setting).

The paraprofessional will be providing assistance with personal cares and behavior for 180 minutes, 3 days a week during ESY.

The service, pupil support table, and adaptation sections would look like this:

Special Education and Related Services							
Provider	Instruction or Service Provided	Location	Anticipated Frequency	Min/Sess		Service	
				Ind	Dir	Start Date	End Date
Jane Smith	Functional	Special Ed	2 per week		40	10/11/08	10/10/09
Jane Smith	Functional	Special Ed	2 per week	15		10/11/08	10/10/09

Pupil Support Assistance							
Provider	Instruction or Service Provided	Location	Anticipated Frequency	Min/Sess		Service	
				Ind	Dir	Start Date	End Date
Paraprofessional	Pupil Support Assistance During the regular school year	Special Ed	5 per week		30	10/11/08	10/10/09
Paraprofessional	Pupil Support Assistance Personal Care Assistance and Behavior During the regular school year	Special Ed	5 per week		300	10/11/08	10/10/09
Paraprofes-sional	Pupil Support Assistance Personal Care Assistance and Behavior - During the regular school year	General Ed	5 per week		60	10/11/08	10/10/09
Paraprofes-sional	Pupil Support Assistance Personal Care Assistance and Behavior - During ESY	Special Ed	3 per week		180	06/05/09	08/31/09

Adaptations in General and Special Education (Supplemental)

Describe needed supplemental aids and service in general and special education
 The following Personal Care Assistant Services will be provided: Application and Maintenance of Prosthetics/Orthotics, Bathing, Eating, and Monitoring/Intervening with Behavior.

Example 2 – Pupil Support and Program Support Assistance

The following example includes the use of Pupil Support Assistance in the Supplementary Aids grid, Program Support Assistance in the Supplementary Aids text box and a modification in the Modification text box. Please note that information is included about when and where the Program Support Assistance and the modification would be provided.

The student needs to improve his/her reading skills and has a goal to develop his/her reading skills to a specific level in a 12 month period.

The teacher provides 60 minutes of LD reading service using direct instruction five days a week.

The paraprofessional provides an additional 40 minutes of special education support service in reading three days a week.

The teacher spends 15 minutes a day with the paraprofessional to adapt materials three days a week.

The service, pupil support table, and adaptation sections would look like this:

Special Education and Related Services							
Provider	Instruction or Service Provided	Location	Anticipated Frequency	Min/Sess		Service	
				Ind	Dir	Start Date	End Date
John Smith	Academic Reading	Special Ed	5 per week		60	10/11/08	10/10/09
John Smith	Academic Reading	Special Ed	3 per week	15		10/11/08	10/10/09

Pupil Support Assistance							
Provider	Instruction or Service Provided	Location	Anticipated Frequency	Min/Sess		Service	
				Ind	Dir	Start Date	End Date
Paraprofessional	Pupil Support Assistance During the regular school year	Special Ed	3 per week		40	10/11/08	10/10/09

Adaptations in General and Special Education (Supplemental)

Describe needed supplemental aids and service in general and special education.
 Pupil Support Assistance will provide additional academic support in reading. Additional academic support will be provided during the school year by the Program Support Assistant when homework for reading is expected to take more than 45 minutes.

Adaptations in General and Special Education (Modifications)

Describe needed program modifications or supports for school personnel to meet the needs of the student
 When reading assignments in the general education setting are more than 10 pages, checklists will be provided and assignments will be divided into shorter segments throughout the school year.

Example 3 - Early Childhood Special Education Program Support Assistance

The following example relates to Early Childhood Special Education.

Special education services will consist of two days of direct instruction from an Early Childhood Special Education teacher for 150 minutes.

The ECSE teacher will consult with the paraprofessional 15 minutes a day 2/4 days per week.

A paraprofessional will provide direct instruction under the direction of the ECSE teacher. The paraprofessional will provide practice of newly learned skills, adapt and modify classroom activities, assist in functional daily activities, and opportunities to practice social interactions for 150 minutes 2/4 days per week. The service and adaptation sections would look like this:

Special Education and Related Services							
Provider	Instruction or Service Provided	Location	Anticipated Frequency	Min/Sess		Service	
				Ind	Dirt	Start Date	End Date
Ann Smith	ECSE	Special Ed	2 /4		150	10/11/08	10/10/09
Ann Smith	ECSE	Special Ed	2 /4	15		10/11/08	10/10/09

Pupil Support Assistance							
Provider	Instruction or Service Provided	Location	Anticipated Frequency	Min/Sess		Service	
				Ind	Dir	Start Date	End Date
Paraprofessional	ECSE Program Support Assistance During the regular school year	Special Ed	2 per week		150	10/11/08	10/10/09

Adaptations in General and Special Education
<p>Describe needed supplemental aids and service in general and special education</p> <p>The paraprofessional will provide direct instruction under the direction of the ECSE teacher. The paraprofessional will provide practice of newly learned skills, adapt and modify classroom activities, assist in functional daily activities and opportunities to practice social interactions.</p>

If you have questions, please contact your special education supervisor or Susan O'Connor Meyer at Ext. 1213.