Determining A Child’s Eligibility for Preschool Special Education Services Remotely

This infographic summarizes guidance and considerations to support state staff and local practitioners in determining a child’s eligibility for preschool special education services remotely, which requires effective state policies, procedures, and practices. See the full guidance at:

https://ectacenter.org/topics/earlyid/remote-eligibility-partb.asp

1. Consider System and State Policies

SYSTEM CONSIDERATIONS
- Determine changes that need to be implemented statewide and those that require flexibility
- Align policy decisions with program vision and communicate them to all stakeholders

USE STATE POLICY TO ADDRESS:
- How to use existing information to minimize the need for remote evaluations
- Regulatory requirements and technology practices
- Data collection and documentation needs
- Practitioner workload and teaming

2. Plan for Remote Eligibility Determination

- Gather necessary information from family and other sources
- Determine who should be involved and if an interpreter will be needed
- Select assessment tools that will provide valid results when used remotely
- Help the team and family prepare for the use of technology

3. Collect Data Remotely

- Honor parent rights and participation
- Maintain confidentiality and follow policies around obtaining consent
- Collect information in a way that values and engages the family
- Observe and discuss the child’s natural actions and interactions
- Remember that parents are not surrogate test administrators

4. Analyze and Take Action

PRACTITIONER DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
- Identify how to share documents and scoring materials remotely for all practitioners to review
- Determine sufficiency and completeness of information collected remotely
- Review options when information collected is inconclusive

TEAM ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION
- Invite and honor everyone’s participation on the team for remote eligibility determination decisions
- Ensure all follow up actions are fully discussed and planned for collaboratively

5. Resources

included on the following topics

- Guidance and Considerations
- Best Practices
- Related IDEA Regulations
- Looks Like and Doesn’t Look Like Examples
- Resources and Links to Online Materials

Assessment Tools

with potential for remote administration for children 0-5 years old

- Screening Tools
- Norm-Referenced Assessment Tools
- Assessment Tools for Planning Instruction and Monitoring Progress

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