

What is "Physical Therapy" and "Occupational Therapy?"

Physical Therapy services may be indicated when a student has a disability or a significant need in one of the following areas: mobility (other than orientation and mobility training for the visually impaired), strength and sensation, posture and gait, pulmonary function, gross motor development, neurological functioning, positioning, bracing or prosthetics of lower extremities, and/or adaptive equipment.

Occupational Therapy services may be indicated when a student has a significant deficit or a special need in one or more of the following areas: perceptual motor, strength and sensation, posture/positioning, activities of daily living, feeding, gross and fine motor development, neurological functioning, splinting or prosthetics of upper extremities, and/or adaptive equipment.

Who decides if my child should have PT or OT services?

Students who receive special education services or who are being evaluated to determine if they qualify for special educational services may also be evaluated to determine their eligibility to receive Physical Therapy (PT) and/or Occupational Therapy (OT) in the school setting. In order to receive such an evaluation, someone (such as a doctor, teacher, etc.) must recommend that the student receive a PT or OT evaluation.

At the completion of the PT or OT evaluation, an Admission, Review, Dismissal (ARD) committee or Individual Education Program (IEP) committee is convened to determine eligibility for the OT or PT service(s).

What is "related service"?

According to Federal and State laws, a "related service" means, "...such developmental, corrective and other supportive services as are required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education..."

Who do I call for help?

For more information please contact your campus administrator or Christie Dement, Director of Curriculum and Special Programs at 979-323-5000.