

Multiple Disabilities

Federal Definition

Concomitant impairments (such as mental retardation-blindness, mental retardation-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 (does not include deaf-blindness).

State Definition

The Illinois definition is the same as the federal definition stated above.

Diagnostic Criteria

Determinant Factors If the student is not succeeding due to (a) lack of scientifically based practices and programs that contain the essential components of reading, (b) lack of instruction in math, or (c) Limited English Proficiency, the student is not eligible for services under IDEA.

Exclusionary Criteria Deficits cannot be due to environmental, cultural, or economic disadvantages.

Inclusionary Criteria

- For students with two disabilities, it is recommended to identify Primary and Secondary eligibility.
- Multiple Disabilities should be utilized for students with a unique combination of two or more disabilities from the list below:

Cognitive Disability	Orthopedic Impairment
Deafness	Other Health Impairment
Hearing Impairment	Speech/Language Impairment

Adverse Effect Student's IEP requires individual statement of adverse effect.

Adversely affects educational performance in the development, acquisition and execution of academic and functional skills, social/emotional adjustment and/or communication across all settings.