

Developmental Delay

Federal Criteria

Children age three through nine experiencing developmental delays. The term “Child with a disability” for age three through nine may, at the discretion of the state and LEA and in accordance with SS 300.313, include a child who is experiencing developmental delays as defined by the state and as measured by appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures, in one or more of the following areas:

1. Physical development, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development, or adaptive development; and
2. Who, by reason thereof, needs special education and related services

State Criteria

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

Diagnostic Criteria

Determinant Factors If the student attends school and 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 The IEP team has ruled out the following factors as the sole basis for the student’s learning difficulties: Sensory, cultural differences, bilingual issues or all other eligibility categories

Inclusionary Criteria The child must demonstrate a marked delay in one or more of the following areas:

- Physical Development
- Cognitive Development
- Communication Development
- Social or Emotional Development
- Adaptive Development

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

Inability to develop/mature at a rate commensurate to chronological age thus resulting in delays in development that effect learning, language, and social skills.