



# OCECD Parent Toolkit

INFORMATION SHEETS



**Be INFORMED.**

**Be EMPOWERED.**

**Be your child's ADVOCATE.**

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## Related Services Tips



A related service is a service provided by the school district that enables your child to benefit from special education. The most common related services for children on IEP's are: Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech Therapy. The IEP team makes the determination if your child does, or does not

need, related services based on the results of your child's evaluation. Some tips about related services are as follows:

The details about your child's related services are listed in Section 7 of your child's IEP. To understand your child's related services, it is important to carefully review Section 7. The school district is required to identify who will be providing the related service, as well as the amount of time and frequency of the service.

<b>IEP Individualized Education Program</b>			
CHILD'S NAME: Betty Lou Who			
<b>7. DESCRIPTION(S) OF SPECIALLY DESIGNED SERVICES</b>			
TYPE OF SERVICE	GOAL(S) ADDRESSED	PROVIDER TITLE	LOCATION OF SERVICES
<b>RELATED SERVICES</b>			
Speech & Language Services  Direct small group language instruction with modeling/prompting, guided practice, and corrective feedback of expressive language skills for successful communication with teachers and peers within the school environment.	2	Speech Language Pathologist	Preschool Special Needs Classroom
BEGIN: 05/01/15	END: 04/30/16	AMOUNT OF TIME: 120 minutes	FREQUENCY: Monthly

For example, if your child is receiving occupational therapy, by reviewing Section 7, you will be able to determine if the occupational therapy is being provided by the Licensed Occupational Therapist (OT), or by another individual such as an Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA). If your child is receiving Speech Therapy, Section 7 will tell you if your child is receiving individual speech therapy or group speech therapy.

Disclaimer: This publication is intended to provide information only and is not intended as legal advice. You should consult a lawyer, if you need legal advice.

Your child's therapists may, at some point, make a recommendation to the IEP team that your child's related services and/or therapy be decreased or terminated. If the IEP team makes the decision to decrease or terminate your child's related services and/or therapy, and you do not agree:

- 1) Inform the IEP team verbally and in writing that you disagree with their decision.
- 2) Request a prior written notice from the school district regarding what data was used to arrive at their decision.
- 3) Consider paying for a private evaluation by a therapist that is not affiliated with the school district. You may invite the private evaluator to attend, in person or by phone conference, your child's IEP meeting to discuss their findings. The school district is required to consider all findings of the outside evaluator.
- 4) Consider exercising your procedural safeguard rights.

**Your child's related services and therapy needs should be determined on the basis of data.**

**The decision to not provide therapy or to decrease the amount of therapy must not be made on the basis of available funds, the availability of a therapist, or the therapist's case load.**

**The amount of therapy your child receives is not dependent on what other children are receiving; it must be based on your child's individual needs.**



If the school district does not have a therapist available, and your child's unique needs require a related service, the school district is permitted to contract with an outside provider, such as a therapist from a local hospital.

If the school district agrees that your child needs a related service, but tells you they do not have a district employee or an independent contractor to provide it, it is appropriate for you to provide the school district with the names of independent therapists that you may know who are available to provide the service on a contractual basis.