



Indiana Requirements

This resource describes [Article 7](#) requirements that should be considered closely when evaluating students with an individualized education program (IEP) for related services.

Related Services Definition and Examples

- **“Related services”** means transportation, developmental, corrective, and other supportive services that are required for a student with a disability to benefit from special education. (511 IAC 7-43-1 (a))
- **Multidisciplinary Team Responsibility:** Related services must be determined by the student’s case conference committee (CCC); and specified in the student’s IEP. The public agency (e.g. school district) must provide related services to a student if the student’s CCC determines that related services are necessary for the student to benefit from special education. Related services may be provided by a teacher or paraprofessional acting in accordance with the instructions of qualified professionals, or as a direct service by a qualified professional.
- **Examples:** *This is not an exhaustive list.*
 - Audiological services
 - Early identification and assessment of disabilities in children
 - Medical services for the purpose of diagnosis and evaluation
 - Orientation and mobility services
 - Psychological services
 - Recreation, including therapeutic recreation
 - School nurse services
 - Transportation
 - Counseling services
 - Interpreting services
 - Occupational therapy
 - Physical therapy
 - Rehabilitation counseling
 - School health services
 - School social work services
 - Parent counseling and training
- **Nonexamples:** (1) A medical device that is surgically implanted, such as a cochlear implant.
(2) The optimization of a surgically implanted device functioning, such as mapping for a cochlear implant.
(3) Maintenance of a surgically implanted device. (4) The replacement of a surgically implanted device.

Medical Devices

- Nothing limits the responsibility of a public agency to appropriately monitor and maintain medical devices that are needed to maintain the health and safety of the student, including: (A) breathing; (B) nutrition; or (C) operation of other bodily functions; while the student is transported to and from school or is at school; or (3) prevents the routine checking of an external component of a surgically implanted device to make sure it is functioning properly.
- Article 7 states that, “The public agency is not responsible for the postsurgical maintenance, programming, or replacement of a student with a disability’s medical device that has been surgically implanted, or of an external component of the surgically implanted medical device. However, the public agency must ensure that the external components of the surgically implanted medical devices are functioning properly.” (511 IAC 7-36-7 (n))



Eligibility

- The type, length, and duration of related services a student will be provided is a CCC decision and written into the IEP.
- Per Article 7, in conducting the educational evaluation, the multidisciplinary team must use a variety of assessment tools and strategies, to gather relevant functional, developmental, and academic information about the student, including information provided by the parent, to assist the CCC in determining the following: (1) Whether the student is eligible for special education and related services. (2) The content of the student's IEP (*511 IAC 7-40-3 (f)*)

Tips for Identifying and Implementing Related Services:

- Ensure that related services support students in making progress toward their IEP's academic or functional goals.
- Consider related services necessary to support the student in accessing the least restrictive environment. Take into consideration both academic and nonacademic participation in extracurricular activities.
- Consider integrating related services during naturally occurring opportunities that align with the student's school day to promote access to instruction in the least restrictive environment.
- Create opportunities for educators and related services personnel to collaborate and maintain consistent communication about student progress even when barriers exist (e.g., travel between schools, contracted positions).

Summary

Related services must be identified by the student's case conference committee (CCC) and included in the IEP if necessary for the student to benefit from special education. Educational evaluations must use multiple assessments and tools, and parent/guardian input, to determine eligibility for special education and related services. These services may be delivered by qualified professionals or by staff under their supervision.

While public agencies are not required to provide or maintain medical devices, they must ensure external components function properly and support devices essential for student health and safety. Each related service may have specific items of note and so it is recommended educators refer to Article 7. Families are not required to provide a prescription for a related service. Parents/guardians of students may revoke permission to provide special education services at any time.

The parent/guardian of the student is an equal member of the multidisciplinary team and/or case conference committee.