

TCSS Procedures for Occupational and Physical Therapy

Occupational Therapy(OT) and Physical Therapy(PT) are related services that may be provided to assist a student in accessing his/her educational program or making progress toward his/her educational goals. Occupational Therapy primarily addresses disabilities related to fine motor, visual motor, visual perception, self-help, and sensorimotor or sensory processing skills. Physical Therapy primarily addresses disabilities related to gross motor, balance, mobility, and gait. The State of Georgia considerations form states that "Therapy in the educational environment should be viewed as a continuum of services that encompasses a variety of service delivery models and intervention strategies. " A child may not need therapy at one time and at a later date be determined to need therapy to ensure educational performance which includes developmental, academic and functional skills.

Referrals for occupational and physical therapy in the school system are made via the IEP Team. This team may include but is not limited to: parents, teacher and others, appropriate to the student's educational program. This team delineates concerns and makes a recommendation for a screening that is relevant to occupational or physical therapy. The team and the occupational or physical therapist discuss previously implemented strategies and/or decide new strategies to implement to address concerns. Based upon the feedback from the occupational or physical therapist the team will determine if further information/evaluation/service is warranted.

For further information and contact information outlined by schools, view our OT/PT section of this website.