

# ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA EMOTIONAL DISABILITY

Student Name:

Date:

Definition: Emotional disability means a condition exhibiting one or more of the following characteristics over a period of time and to a marked degree that adversely affects a child's education performance: A) An inability to learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors, B) An inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and teachers, C) Inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances, D) A general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression, or E) A tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems.

## Checklist for Determining Eligibility:

### 1. Identification of Disability

There is documentation that the student exhibits one or more of the following five characteristics:

- 1) An inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and/or teachers
- 2) Inappropriate types of behaviors or feelings under normal circumstances
- 3) A general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression
- 4) A tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems
- 5) An inability to learn (relative to the child and not an absolute absence of learning) which cannot be

explained by:

Intellectual Factors

Sensory factors

Health Factors

(While these factors may influence the disability, they do not represent the PRIMARY cause of the child's disability.)

There is documentation that the student continues to demonstrate one or more of the above characteristics:

over an extended period of time (at least one year)  
to a marked degree

There is documentation that these behaviors/feelings are not due:

Differing cultural expectations  
Linguistic factors

(While these factors may influence the disability, they do not represent primarily social maladjustment.)

There is documentation that these behaviors/feelings are not attributed to the student being "socially maladjusted," unless it is determined they have an emotional disturbance. It may include students with schizophrenia.

### 2. **Exclusionary Criteria:** The team has determined that the student's difficulties are NOT due to the following

- |     |    |  |
|-----|----|--|
| Yes | No | Lack of scientifically based instructional practices and programs that contain the essential reading instruction |
| Yes | No | Lack of instruction in math;   |
| Yes | No | Limited English Proficiency.   |

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|----|--|-----|----|
| 3. | <b><u>Decision Process:</u></b>  |     |    |
|    | Has the criteria been substantiated by convergent data?                        | Yes | No |
|    | Has the criteria been measured against identified standards and/or benchmarks? | Yes | No |
|    | Has the information been obtained from multiple sources?                       | Yes | No |
|    | Does a majority of the criteria support eligibility?                           | Yes | No |

All four questions must be answered yes to support the team's eligibility decision.

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|----|--|-----|----|
| 4. | Documentation of adverse effect on educational performance       | Yes | No |
| 5. | Determination of need for special education and related services | Yes | No |

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| <b>The student meets criteria for Emotional Disability:</b> | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|