

Criteria To Assist In Identifying PISP Students

Here are some criteria that may assist you in identifying appropriate students:

- functional cognitive level is within the severe or profound range (not moderate)
 - typically our students have no academic skills (e.g., counting, number recognition, sorting, matching, letter/word recognition)

- most students are non-verbal (e.g., communication demonstrated perhaps through simple acceptance/rejection of familiar activities; choices between objects or very simple pictures; vocalizations, gestures & facial expressions as opposed to words used to communicate)

- possible vision and/or hearing impairments ranging from mild to severe

- severe/profound multiple physical impairments (both your OT and PT are involved with this student)
 - limited or nonexistent functional hand use (e.g., switches are used to foster participation; student does not use hands in any functional context); some students due to severe cognitive challenges may not be using their hands in any functional way

 - most students are in wheelchairs (non-ambulatory), or require assistance with their movement (e.g., transfers to different seating, using walkers, adapted bikes, assisted walking); some students who may be ambulatory, require full assistance due to safety issues around their profound cognitive level.