

Individual Education Program (IEP) - a plan used to document appropriate and individualized education. The IEP puts in writing the child's current level of functioning, annual goals, short-term objectives and support and/or related services needed to achieve these goals and objectives (including the need for AT devices and services).

Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) - a written plan developed by a consumer and a vocational rehabilitation counselor to outline all the services needed to find employment and an appropriate career of the consumer's choice.

interdisciplinary team - individuals involved in assessment and recommendations for persons with disabilities. The team consists of persons from a wide variety of disciplines including, but not limited to, medical experts, educators, speech language pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, rehabilitation engineers, care providers, psychologists, rehabilitation counselors, and social workers.

medically necessary - The condition must be medical in nature and services necessary to alleviate a medical condition, not for convenience. Treatment of client condition, disease, or injury should be based on predictable health outcomes. Items need to be prescribed by a health care professional.

Occupational Therapist - help persons with both physical and emotional problems. The term "occupation" used in the context of this profession refers to any activity with which persons occupy their time. Occupational Therapists focus on helping people master the everyday activities of life and work.

orthotics - the selection, fabrication and fitting of devices used to protect, support, or improve the function of parts of the body. Any device of this type is called an orthosis or an orthotic device (plural - orthoses).

Physical Therapist - health care professionals who evaluate and treat people with health problems resulting from injury or disease.

prior approval - an agreement in writing that ensures payment of a device. Eligibility for prior approval must be determined by the funding source (agency) BEFORE the purchase of the device.

prosthetics - the selection, fabrication and fitting of devices (artificial limbs) used to replace the function of parts of the body that move (i.e., arms, hands, legs, feet). Any device of this type is called a prosthesis or a prosthetic device (plural - prostheses).

screen reader software - also referred to as text-to-speech utilizes computer software or apps to convert text to a digital format that reads the information out loud. Specialized software can also highlight words, sentences or paragraphs as the text is being read.

Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) - professionals that provide treatment of speech defects and disorders, especially through use of exercises and audio-visual aids that develop new speech habits. The SLP may also provide AAC assessments and training.

Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD) - allows a person to transmit typed messages over the phone lines to another person with a TDD. Most TDDs include a keyboard for typing messages to send, and a display and/or printer to receive messages.

universal design - a concept or philosophy for designing and delivering products and services that are usable by people with the widest possible range of functional capabilities, which include products and services that are directly accessible (without requiring assistive technologies) and products and services that are interoperable with assistive technologies.

voice recognition system - also referred to as speech-to-text, an access system designed to replace the standard keyboard as the method of input. The system is "trained" to recognize utterances that are spoken into a microphone. The utterances are translated into computer commands or sequences of alphanumeric characters and used to operate the computer and software.