

Eligibility Determination Scenarios

July 2012

Regional Meetings

For each scenario, determine who will need to be involved in determining eligibility and what sections of the Eligibility Determination Form must be completed.

Scenario 1: Elizabeth has just been referred to the local system by the NICU at Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters. You have documentation from CHKD that Elizabeth was born at 26 weeks gestation.

Who: Service Coordinator

What sections of form:

- Top part
- Eligibility established by records (check box and list records)
- Statement of Eligibility
- Signature

Why: Eligibility established by records - You have medical records showing child is eligible based on diagnosed condition (≤ 28 weeks gestation)

Scenario 2: Dean is 24 months old and was just referred to the local system by his mother because she is concerned that Dean is only using a few words.

Who: Multidisciplinary team (one or more people representing 2 disciplines)

What sections of form: All

Why: Cannot establish eligibility by records

Scenario 3: Carter is 10 months old and has been referred to the local system by his mother because of concerns about his gross motor development. She has a report from a developmental evaluation that was completed a few weeks ago at Kluge, and the report indicates Carter's gross motor development is like that of a 6 month old. Carter was not born prematurely.

Who: 1 EI Professional (may be same discipline as person at Kluge who wrote report)

What sections of form:

- Top part
- Eligibility established by records (check box and list records)
- Statement of Eligibility
- Signature

Why: Eligibility established by records – You have report showing 25% delay.

Scenario 4: It is time for Brynn's annual confirmation of eligibility. Brynn has been receiving developmental services every other week for the last 9 months from Debra, an EI Professional with a degree in Early Childhood Special Education. Based on ongoing assessment (as documented in her contact notes), it is clear to Debra that Brynn is still significantly (at least 25%) delayed in her cognitive and social development.

Who: 1 EI Professional (most likely Debra)

What sections of form:

- Top part
- Eligibility established by records (check box and list records)
- Statement of Eligibility
- Signature

Why: Eligibility established by records – You have documentation (contact notes) that show 25% delay.

Scenario 5: It is time for Brynn's annual confirmation of eligibility. Brynn has been receiving developmental services every other week for the last 9 months from Debra, an EI Professional with a degree in Early Childhood Special Education. Based on her ongoing assessment, Debra knows that Brynn's level of functioning is now very close to age level in the areas of cognitive and social development, the only areas of delays identified at the initial eligibility determination, and that gross and fine motor and adaptive development remain at age level. However, Debra does not have a lot of experience assessing communication development in children Brynn's age and Debra is not sure whether Brynn's expressive language is at age level.

There are a couple of possibilities here --

Who: Debra and one other EI Professional (who review contact notes and determine eligibility or complete observation/assessment in expressive language for additional information in order to determine eligibility)

What sections of form: All

Why: Cannot establish eligibility by records

OR

Who: Debra asks another EI Professional with more experience in assessing expressive language (SLP or other) to review the contact notes. If that individual can establish eligibility based on the ongoing assessment info in those contact notes, then eligibility is established by records

What sections of form:

- Top part
- Eligibility established by records (check box and list records)
- Statement of Eligibility
- Signature

Why: Eligibility established by records – You have documentation (contact notes) that show 25% delay.

Scenario 6: It is time to develop Paul's annual IFSP. Paul has Down syndrome and has been receiving developmental services twice a month and physical therapy once a month. Neither of his service providers has seen him in the last 2 months because he had surgery and then a series of colds and ear infections.

Who: Service Coordinator

What sections of form:

- Top part
- Eligibility established by records (check box and list records)
- Statement of Eligibility
- Signature

Why: Eligibility established by records – You have documentation (collected prior to initial eligibility) of Down syndrome. Doesn't matter for eligibility determination that neither of his service providers has seen Paul in 2 months ... he's still eligible based on his diagnosis.