TEXAS DEAFBLIND PROJECT

Sensory Team Service Time Matrix for Students Who Are Deafblind

Purpose

This matrix is designed for the itinerant model of instruction to facilitate collaborative teaming between the Teacher of Students who are Visually Impaired (TSVI) and the Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing (TDHH).

1. **Collaborative Ranking:** The TSVI and TDHH should complete this matrix together.
2. **Scoring:** For each of the seven "Areas of Consideration," rank the student or team's area of need on a scale of **0 to 3**:
    - **0:** No need
    - **1:** Low need
    - **2:** Moderate need
    - **3:** Significant need
3. **Service Type:** Evaluate each area twice—once for Direct Instruction needs and once for Consultative Service needs.
4. **Automatic Calculation:** Once scores are entered, the matrix will generate an estimated recommended amount of service time for both the TSVI and TDHH based on the "Time Key Tables" provided in the tool.

Disclaimers and Considerations

The service times generated by this matrix are **recommendations only** and should be viewed as a starting point for discussion. They are not definitive or legally binding service amounts. The final determination of service time must be made by the student's educational team based on individual needs.

Additional Factors Influencing Service Time

The educational team may need to adjust the suggested time if any of the following factors apply:

- **Instructional Setting (Homebound):** For students receiving instruction in a homebound setting, the recommended service times may need to be reduced if the student cannot tolerate the full amount of instruction listed.
- **Braille Instruction:** If the student requires braille instruction from the TSVI, the service time may need to be substantially higher than the matrix suggests.
- **Material Preparation:** Students requiring extensive preparation of specialized tactile or visual materials may necessitate increased service time for the sensory staff.
- **Professional Judgment:** Always consider the unique medical, emotional, and environmental factors (e.g., stress management or concept development needs) that may impact a student's ability to benefit from the suggested service levels.

Matrix Tool Spreadsheet

Make a copy of the Sensory Team Service Time Matrix in Google Sheets.

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