



Missouri Eligibility Criteria for Intellectual Disability Intellectual Disability Definition

“Intellectual Disability” means significantly sub average general intellectual functioning and includes a student whose intelligence test score is two or more standard deviations below norm on standardized individual intelligence test, existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior manifested during the developmental period that adversely affects a child’s educational performance. Criteria for Initial Determination of Eligibility

A child displays intellectual disability when:

- A. The child performs 2.0 Standard Deviations below their peers of equivalent age, ethnic, and cultural background when measured by a standardized instrument of cognitive ability;
- B. The child displays adaptive behavior consistent with measured cognitive ability. Adaptive behavior refers to the effectiveness with which a student meets standards of personal independence and social responsibility expected of his/her age and cultural group. There should be a significant positive correlation between the student's intellectual ability and adaptive behavior; and,
- c. The disability adversely affects the child’s educational performance.

Missouri Eligibility Criteria can be found in the Missouri State Plan for Special Education,

Regulation III- Identification and evaluation;

<http://dese.mo.gov/governmentalaffairs/dese-administrative-rules/incorporated-reference-materials/IDEAPartB-2014>

