

Activity 3: Related Services Decision-Making Scenarios

Purpose: To provide opportunities for workshop participants to use the “Related Services Checklist” to assist in making decisions about the need for proposed related services.

Step 1: Form groups consisting of 4 or 5 participants. The group facilitator reviews Step 2 and provides examples. (5 minutes)

Step 2: One group member at a time takes a turn identifying a student (no names to maintain confidentiality) who either has a specific related service or where one has been proposed. Briefly describe the student's characteristics and educational program to the group. Using the “Related Services Checklist,” as a group, respond to the questions by:

- a. Listing the proposed related service
- b. Clarifying whether the service is educationally relevant
- c. Clarifying the purpose of the proposed service
- d. Clarifying whether the service is educationally necessary

For each question give group members an opportunity to ask clarifying questions if necessary to get a better understanding of the situation. For example, what information is needed, but not available, to make an informed decision.

Step 3: As a group be prepared to explain why the proposed related service does or does not meet the criteria for educational relevance and necessity.

Step 4: List any points or questions that your discussion raises.

Step 5: Repeat Steps 2 - 4 with a different group member offering a proposed related service. (40 minutes for Steps 2-5)

Step 5: Reconvene as a large group and ask representatives of the small groups to share their main discussion points and questions. (15 minutes)