



QUICK GUIDE: REFERRAL QUESTIONS



ESTABLISHING REFERRAL QUESTIONS

Referral questions are a restatement of the concerns that were raised when the student was brought to the attention of the evaluation team, as well as any additional concerns raised by the team during the referral process. Establishing referral questions helps the team to **identify the information that the team needs to gather through a comprehensive evaluation** that will help to determine eligibility. In addition, referral questions can help the team ensure they are gathering information that **provides the team with actionable guidance about supports or instruction** the student may need to address the areas of concern.

TYPES OF REFERRAL QUESTIONS

Disability Based	<p>Disability based questions are designed to help the team clarify the concerns and determine what might be causing the problem. By including this type of question in the referral, we are <u>NOT</u> predetermining whether the student is eligible under a specific category. Instead, the team can use this information to determine what information needs to be collected as part of the evaluation.</p> <p><u>EXAMPLES:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does Peter have a Specific Learning Disability? • Does Emily have a Language Impairment or weak Verbal Comprehension skills? • Does Xavier have a Health Impairment that is causing his academic and behavioral deficits?
Present Level Based	<p>Present level based questions help the team to identify where the student is currently performing in the areas of concern.</p> <p><u>EXAMPLES:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are Peter's strengths and needs in the area of reading comprehension? • What are Emily's current levels of academic and language development? • What skills does Xavier currently have related to math calculation and problem solving, and what skills does he need to learn? When are his behaviors most likely to occur and how often are they occurring?
Solution Based	<p>Solution based questions help the team to determine what can be done to support the student and what types of instruction may be needed.</p> <p><u>EXAMPLES:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does Peter need specially designed instruction in the area of reading comprehension? • What changes to content, methodology or delivery of instruction are needed to support Emily's academic and language development? • What skill areas in math may need to be addressed for Xavier through specially designed instruction or intervention? Are there behavioral supports or instruction needed to allow him to access the general education curriculum?