

Description

The San Diego Unified School District's program for students with medical and physical challenges provides an individualized, highly structured, multi-sensory environment with specialized equipment that is responsive to auditory, visual, olfactory, tactile, vestibular and proprioceptive sensory inputs. Individualized student programs are developed that include a variety of related services and supports and are based on individual needs as outlined in the student's IEP.

Located on comprehensive school sites within the district, the Medically and Physically Challenged (MPC) Classroom utilizes a multi-sensory approach to curriculum based on alternative standards and leads to a Certificate of Completion as an alternative to a diploma. The MPC Classroom gives students the tools to actively participate in their educational experience, on the premise that each student, regardless of disability, is assured equal access to the educational options and supports provided to all students of the same age group. This program is based on the principles and beliefs that all students can learn, all students benefit from learning with their peers and that a stimulating environment inspires students to learn through their own actions.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible, students must have significant below-average general intellectual functioning existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior that adversely affects educational performance. Student should qualify to participate in CAPA Level I. A student's medical needs must be chronic in nature and must be documented in the student's IEP. A student's IEP must necessitate a need for Specialized Physical Health Care Services (SPHCS), Health Nursing Services (HNS) and/or they must have a medical condition that requires an immediate medical response, resulting in a need for a full time onsite nurse, Special Education Health Technician, and/or specially trained Special Education Technicians and instructional staff. Students typically require supportive equipment for sitting, standing, mobility, or transfers to access their educational environment and significant curricular modifications to access curriculum.

Determination

Placement in a MPC classroom is considered a more restrictive setting and does not ensure placement at student's neighborhood school or a school within the student's community. The IEP team must complete the "Request for Consultation to Consider Eligibility for Medically and Physically Challenged Classroom" and submit via email to the district's multi-disciplinary MPC consultation review team. After consulting with the MPC consultation review team, if the MPC classroom is determined to be an appropriate consideration, an IEP meeting must be convened. The IEP team must reassess the student in order to make a change of placement into an MPC classroom. The team must discuss the supports and services the student requires and determine placement. Since Specialized Academic Instruction (SAI) provided within the MPC classroom is considered more restrictive, eligibility is made on an individualized basis.