

ELIGIBILITY REPORT / OTHER HEALTH IMPAIRED (DEC 3c)

General Directions: Prior to determining eligibility for special education and related services as Other Health Impaired, an educational evaluation and a medical evaluation must be completed. It is recommended that psychological and behavioral evaluations also be conducted.

Note: Federal Law requires that IEP Teams consider the items listed on the DEC 3c. While the use of this form is optional, use of the eligibility criteria is required. The use of this form is one method of documenting that the IEP Team has discussed all of the requirements for determining eligibility as Other Health Impaired.

Directions for completing form:

- I. **Characteristics:** IDEA 97 identifies three specific characteristics that may be present in students who are considered for special education and related services as Other Health Impaired: alertness, strength, and vitality.
 - A. The IEP Team will discuss and document characteristics pertaining to **alertness**. Assistance is provided to the Team by the use of a checklist of potential characteristics. The Team should check all areas that apply to the student.
 - B. The IEP Team will discuss and document characteristics pertaining to **strength**. Assistance is provided to the Team by the use of a checklist of potential characteristics. The Team should check all that apply to the student. If there are other issues regarding strength, space is provided for the Team to describe these issues (“other”).
 - C. The IEP Team will discuss issues of **vitality**. The Federal Law provides no guidance as to potential characteristics pertaining to vitality. A general dictionary definition of vitality includes physical or intellectual vigor or energy. The Team must document discussion of characteristics related to the vitality of the student.

- II. **Adverse effect on educational performance:** If at least one of the characteristics (listed in Section I) is present, it is then required that the IEP Team document how the characteristic(s) adversely affect the educational performance of the student. Five areas of educational performance are listed in question format. The five areas are:
 - Lack of progress from year to year (in terms of school / education);
 - Functioning significantly lower than grade and / or ability level;
 - Inability to complete school tasks, even with interventions;
 - Attendance problems due to health issues; and
 - Negative effects of medication(s)

For each of the five areas of educational performance listed, the Team should indicate, by checking yes or no, if the student is affected. A brief narrative explanation should follow for each of the five areas.

A copy of the completed DEC 3c should be provided to the parent. The original should be maintained in the student’s educational file.