

Severity / Intervention Matrix for Speech and Language Services

	Mild 1-Unit (Minimum 15 – 30 minutes per week)	Moderate 2-Units (Minimum 31 – 60 minutes per week)	Severe 3-Units (Minimum 61-90 minutes per week)	Profound 5-Units (Minimum 91+ minutes per week)
Severity of Disorder	Impairment <u>minimally</u> affects the individual's ability to communicate	Impairment <u>interferes</u> with the individual's ability to communicate	Impairment <u>limits</u> the individual's ability to communicate	Impairment <u>prevents</u> the individual from communicating
Articulation / Phonology	Intelligible over 80% of the time in connected speech. No more than 2 speech sound errors outside developmental guidelines. Students may be stimulable for error sounds.	Intelligible 50-80% of the time in connected speech. Substitutions and distortions and some omissions may be present. There is limited stimulability for the error phonemes.	Intelligible 20-49% of the time in connected speech. Deviations may range from extensive substitutions and many omissions to extensive omissions. A limited number of phoneme classes are evidenced in a speech-language sample. Consonant sequencing is generally lacking. Augmentative communication systems may be warranted.	Speech is unintelligible without gestures and cues and/or knowledge of the context. Usually there are additional pathological or psychological problems, such as neuro-motor deficits or structural deviations. Augmentative communication systems may be warranted.
Language	The student demonstrates a deficit in receptive, expressive, or pragmatic language as measured by two or more diagnostic procedures / standardized tests. Performance falls from 1.0 to 1.5 standard deviations below the mean standard score (SS = 85 – 77.5).	The student demonstrates a deficit in receptive, expressive, or pragmatic language as measured by two or more diagnostic procedures / standardized tests. Performance falls from 1.5 to 2.0 standard deviations below the mean standard score (SS = 77.5 - 70).	The student demonstrates a deficit in receptive, expressive, or pragmatic language as measured by two or more diagnostic procedures / standardized tests (if standardized tests can be administered). Augmentative communication systems may be warranted. Performance falls from 2.0 to 2.5 standard deviations below the mean standard score (SS = 70 – 62.5).	The student demonstrates a deficit in receptive, expressive, or pragmatic language, which prevents appropriate communication in school and/or social situations. Augmentative communication systems may be warranted. Performance falls from 2.5 standard deviations below the mean standard score (SS = 62.5-).
Fluency	2-4% atypical disfluencies within a speech sample of at least 100 words. No tension to minimal tension. <u>Rate and/or Prosody</u> has minimal interference with communication.	5-8% atypical disfluencies within a speech sample of at least 100 words. Noticeable tension and/or secondary characteristics are present. <u>Rate and/or Prosody</u> limits communication.	9-12% atypical disfluencies within a speech sample of at least 100 words. Excessive tension and/or secondary characteristics are present. <u>Rate and/or Prosody</u> interferes with communication.	More than 12% atypical disfluencies within a speech sample of at least 100 words. Excessive tension and/or secondary characteristics are present. <u>Rate and/or Prosody</u> prevents communication.
Voice Including hoarseness, nasality, denasality, pitch or intensity	Voice difference is appropriate for the student's age is of minimal concern to parent, teacher, student, or physician. Medical referral may be indicated.	Voice difference is of concern to parent, teacher, student, or physician. Voice is not appropriate for age and sex of the student. Medical referral may be indicated.	Voice difference is of concern to parent, teacher, student, or physician. Voice is distinctly abnormal for age and sex of the student. Medical referral is indicated.	Speech is largely unintelligible due to aphonia or severe hypernasality. Extreme effort is apparent in production of speech. Medical referral is indicated.