

The Challenge of Including COSF Rating data for All Children with IFSP/IEPs

Child Outcome ratings are required for all children who have IFSPs or IEPs and receive Part C or Part B services for children from birth through 5 years of age. This requirement is not dependent on a child's placement, the amount of service the child receives, or the child's disability category.

Information from one of the approved curriculum based assessments must be used as supporting evidence for each Child Outcomes rating at initial entry and permanent exit from the program. Additional assessment information may come from record review, interview, observation, screening, and/or other test results.

For children with speech impairments including speech sound disorders, voice disorders, and/or fluency disorders who do not have a language disorder or a secondary disability, the requirement for the curriculum based assessment is waived if the team members can confidently rate the child a 6 or 7 in all 3 outcome areas on the basis of record review, interview, observation and screening. If even one of the outcome areas cannot be rated a 6 or 7, then the curriculum based assessment information must be used as supporting evidence for each of the early childhood outcomes.

For children with language disorders or a secondary disability, it is important for Speech and Language professionals to share information about the child as part of the team rating process.