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CLINICAL ISSUES

Topic: **Articulation Norms**

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Original Message:

What are other states using for articulation norms for qualifying students in school settings?

South Dakota, as a state, does not have any standard norms so whether or not a student qualifies for service varies from district to district. Any info. would be helpful. Thanks!

Responses:

- a. Missouri uses "acceptable normative data" which allows some flexibility for the school districts. MSHA has posted Normative Data Sound System Disorder on our website. Here is the link for those of you who might be interested. http://www.showmemsha.org/normative_sound.htm
Cynthia Baker, MSHA President
- b. In Minnesota, we use -2 Standard Deviations on a standardized tool (Photo Articulation Test, Goldman Fristoe) through age eight, a conversation sample that reflects the effects on intelligibility, and the opinion of one other person other than the SLP that it affects communication. At age 9, we no longer use the standardized tool. The student at 9 must have consistent errors in two, three minute conversation samples. The outside opinion that it affects communication must also be included. Mary Garrison
- c. There is no mandated statewide norms in NJ, either, but the student does have to demonstrate a delay. In NJ code a delay is found when the student has not acquired appropriate articulation of a sound at an age which 90% of their peers are expected to develop appropriate acquisition of that particular sound. Each district decides which normative data to use. Hope this helps. Nancy Patterson, President NJSHA
- d. SC eligibility criteria: The student demonstrates at least one of the following impairments: 1 - articulation impairment evidenced by either a) single or multiple production errors on a developmental scale of articulation competency b) misarticulations that interfere with communication and attract adverse attention, or c) reduced intelligibility due to a phonological disorder or an inability to use the speech mechanism appropriately due to a motor speech disorder such as apraxia or dysarthria. As part of the eval, students must have a measure of single word utterances, conversational articulation measure, and a phonological analysis if needed. Celeste F. Blackmon, MCD, CCC-SLP, President Elect, South Carolina Speech Language Hearing Association

- e. The state of Iowa uses norms that have been developed with the state of Nebraska. There is a set for males and a set for females. If you send me your address I will mail you a set. sbennett@aea267.k12.ia.us Sandy Bennett
- f. You can review the Guidelines for SLPs for NC Schools at www.ncpublicschools.org/ec/exceptionality/speech - click on 1.6 MB and view the document. There is an artic norms section! Thanks. AJ