

Welcome to School Based Occupational Therapy

School District 53 - OT ROLE

School-Based Occupational Therapy differs from Community Based Occupational Therapy Services.

School- Based OT must be relevant to a skill required to access or prepare for academics and optimal functioning in the classroom.

Services may include observation in the classroom, assessment and/or consultation services.

Students are identified by their teacher and brought to school based team meetings before referral is submitted to district office.

The OT will determine the appropriate course of action based on the referral.

Occupational Therapy is related service that provides support in the areas of:

Fine Motor	Muscles of the upper body/hands
Visual Motor	Eye-hand coordination
Visual Perception	How the brain processes information it gets from the eyes
Bilateral Coordination	How the hands work together
Printing Skills	Written output and pencil grasp
Sensory Processing	How the body processes information through the eyes ears, nose, mouth, skin, muscles and inner ear. The ability to Self-Regulate when sensory processing may be a concern.

Deficits in the above areas may affect a student's ability to participate in a variety of tasks required for school, including handwriting, typing, cutting, self-care, etc. These are the 'Occupations' of school.

	School Based OT	Community Based OT
Qualify for OT services	Must have an academic/educational or functional classroom need identified by the classroom teacher	Limitations noted by a parent/family, or doctor and that may impact all areas of life. Evaluation performed at a families home or clinic.
New Referrals	Must be initiated by the classroom teacher and presented at School Based Team Meeting CIT to submit referral to board office	Personal referral to private clinic or practitioner in the community.
Permission Forms	Yearly Permission forms signed by parents/guardians required for ongoing monitoring, check in's or any new assessments needed	Family consents to personal private services
Service Provided	Assessments and Consultation services provided. These services depend on the needs of each student and the school needs OT attends schools once a month with some flexibility.	Assessment, Consultation and Intervention Services provided. Services varies based on clinicians evaluations. Ongoing weekly/biweekly intervention services as per OT assessment and child's needs.
Assessment/Consultation	OT and CIT meet monthly to review the student priorities of the school and determine which student requires assessments/consultations	Based on Clinical Evaluations