Testing Accommodations Guide

Behavior-related testing supports

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Common Testing Challenges

Students with behavior needs may struggle with:

- Extended periods of focused attention
- Frustration with difficult items
- Anxiety about performance
- Sitting still for long periods
- Transitioning back to regular routine

Environmental Accommodations

- [ ] Small group testing
- [ ] Individual testing room
- [ ] Preferential seating
- [ ] Reduced distractions
- [ ] Familiar testing environment
- [ ] Consistent examiner

Timing Accommodations

- [ ] Extended time
- [ ] Breaks as needed
- [ ] Multiple sessions
- [ ] Time of day considerations
- [ ] Flexible scheduling

Response Accommodations

- [ ] Verbal responses
- [ ] Pointing/alternative response
- [ ] Assistive technology
- [ ] Scribe for written responses
- [ ] Large print materials

Behavior-Specific Supports

- [ ] Access to fidget tools
- [ ] Movement breaks scheduled
- [ ] Calming strategies available
- [ ] Reinforcement during testing (if appropriate)
- [ ] De-escalation plan in place
- [ ] Familiar support person present

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Testing Day Preparation

- [ ] Student knows what to expect
- [ ] Practice with similar format
- [ ] Coping strategies reviewed
- [ ] Reinforcement plan clear
- [ ] Materials prepared
- [ ] Staff briefed on student needs

During Testing

- [ ] Monitor for signs of frustration
- [ ] Offer breaks proactively
- [ ] Use encouraging statements
- [ ] Have crisis plan accessible
- [ ] Document any concerns

Pro Tip

Accommodations must be documented in the IEP/504 and used regularly throughout the year - not just during testing.

Track Accommodation Use

Classroom Pulse helps document accommodation implementation and effectiveness.

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