

Q and A's for Specially Designed Instruction

1. **Q: If a student is receiving IEP-driven modifications in a regular education class, is that considered SDI?**

A: No, because SDI needs to have an instructional component to it. Taking a class with modifications alone is not considered SDI unless there is also instruction occurring that is based on the student's IEP.

2. **Q: If a student is taking English or math in high school and all of the students in the class are also on IEPs, is that class considered SDI?**

A: Only if the instruction the student is receiving is based on the student's IEP and has an anticipated, measurable outcome.

3. **Q: If a student comes to a resource room study hall to get help/support on their assignments, is this SDI?**

A: No, this would not be SDI unless while the student is in the resource room, they are receiving specific instruction related to goals on the IEP. Normally, assisting a student with regular ed. class work, or helping them pass a class, is not SDI.

4. **Q: A student has a one-on-one EA in a regular ed. class. Is that considered SDI?**

A: That depends on the role of the EA. If the EA is helping the student access the regular curriculum by providing accommodations, then that would not be considered SDI. If the EA were providing instruction in a way that is different than what the regular class is receiving, and is related to the student's IEP, then it would be SDI.

5. **Q: An ELL student who is also IDEA eligible is receiving her reading instruction from an ELL teacher and it is being taught at her instructional level. Is that SDI?**

A: If the ELL teacher is collaborating closely with the Special Education Teacher and is working towards a measurable outcome based on the student's IEP goals, then it would be SDI.

6. **Q: A middle school student is in a regular low-level math class, and gets support from the resource room staff for part of the period. Is that SDI?**

A: Yes, if they are providing the content of the class in a way that is more intentional, more intense, or in a different way. It also needs to be related to the student's IEP goals.

7. **Q: An EA pulls a student out of their regular English class for 15 minutes a day to work on specific goals outlined in the student's IEP. Is that SDI?**
A: Yes, as long as it is done in close consult with a special education teacher.
8. **Q: If a regular education teacher works with a student daily on their IEP goals, is that SDI?**
A: Yes, as long as it is done in close consult with a special education teacher. This consultation should be documented and should happen frequently.
9. **Q: What parts of implementing a behavior plan is considered SDI? (Just the actual instruction, the check-in/check-out, the monitoring throughout the day, time outs?)**
A: Specific instruction is SDI. So is check in/check out time would be SDI because instruction is likely going on. The monitoring of the behavior plan itself, or the fact that a student is on a behavior plan all day, is not SDI. The plan would be listed as a supplementary aid/service.
10. **Q: Does one-on-one monitoring of a student on the playground constitute SDI for behavior?**
A: Not unless specific instruction is going on. Monitoring a student for safety/behavioral reasons would be a Supplementary Aid/Service, not SDI.
11. **Q: If a student is in a regular classroom and participating at the same level as her peers but using a different methodology to meet her needs (use of visual organizers and computer software), is that SDI?**
A: Yes, as long as the staff person working with the student is qualified to do so, or is working closely with a special education teacher.
12. **Q: If a student is able to use the same curriculum as his peers, but needs to be instructed in a small group or in a different setting, is that SDI?**
A: Yes, ODE defines SDI to include the delivery of instruction.
13. **Q: Could a speech path be providing SDI in social skills/behavior while eating lunch once a week with a group of disabled and non-disabled students?**
A: Yes.
14. **Q: Is the work an interpreter does for a hearing impaired student who is taking regular classes considered SDI?**
A: No, this would be considered an accommodation and would be included as such on a student's IEP (or 504 plan if the only needed this accommodation and no specially designed instruction.)

15. Q: Is the time that a nurse or specially trained staff member is tube-feeding a student considered SDI?

A: No, this also would be considered a related service that the student needs in order to access their education.

16. Q: Is a student's participation in School-wide reading through Title 1 considered SDI if they have qualified for Special Education and are in a Title group that is below grade level but appropriate to the student's needs?

A: Probably not. In order for a child to qualify for special education, one of the eligibility criteria is that they student *needs* special education. If their needs can be met with Title 1, then they probably shouldn't have it on their IEP, even if they are below grade level. If, however, the Title teacher is consulting regularly with the Special Education Teacher in a documented, meaningful way, and is providing instruction in a way that is different, more intense, and is related directly to the IEP goals, then it could be considered SDI. Simply including the student in a Title program that is appropriate to their instructional level is not SDI.