Writing Paras on IEPs

**Child Specific**

*Description of when to use:* This is used for situations in which a student must have a paraprofessional for safety. For example, if a student has seizures or is extremely likely to run out of school.

*How to document on the IEP:*

* For “Child Specific Paraprofessional” check “yes”.
* Check the Child Specific Support box as “Yes”
* Indicate the types of service the paraprofessional will provide on the service grid
* Indicate the location of the service
* Indicate the frequency and length of time.
* In the box, indicate specifically the “job description” of the paraprofessional.
* Do not enter a provider or supervisor number in the box.

*Examples:*

* The paraprofessional monitors, observes, and cues for muscle control such as slumping and loss of head control; he needs to be positioned several times daily to avoid skin lesions. The paraprofessional assists Johnny with using the restroom; monitors for safety in the hallway during high traffic passing times; range of motion exercises need to be completed daily to maintain level of strength and muscle functioning.
* Johnny demonstrates increased vulnerability which requires consistent supervision. The paraprofessional will observe, intervene, and redirect for behaviors that may cause of have the potential to cause injury to Johnny or others. He needs reminders to wash hands after toileting and before eating. He is able to ambulate around the school; however, he has limited sense of direction and can become lost. He needs to be monitored to ensure he is dressed appropriately for indoor and outdoor conditions.
* Johnny needs to be redirected to listen to the instructor or other professionals in the classroom and to reduce disruption to the learning environment. He needs reminders not to speak out repeatedly at inappropriate times. He needs to be monitored to ensure he does not become agitated and physically aggressive; if he starts to fidget with school supplies such as erasers and crayons, he should be asked to leave the classroom with the paraprofessional. If the agitation increases, he often starts to throw the school supplies which can be injurious to himself or others.
* Johnny is unable to toilet at a level consistent with his peers and needs reminders to use the restroom, pull up his pants, and wash his hands. He needs to be monitored closely as he tends to wander off and touch objects which can be harmful. Johnny demonstrates delayed verbal skills so he is unable to express his needs. He demonstrates delayed gross motor skills so he needs to be monitored closely during physical activities as he demonstrates no fear of climbing to the top of the slide and other playground equipment.

**General Support Needed**

*Description of when to use:* Paraprofessionals are needed to support the student with accommodations and modifications such as redirecting behavior, reading materials, etc.

*How to document in the IEP:*

In the accommodations and modifications box of the IEP, list the accommodations and modifications needed. Examples are included in the pull-downs.

Do NOT state “paraprofessional”, “one:one”, “2:1”, etc. Do NOT state a paraprofessional will be available in social studies. (There are always exceptions to Do NOT, but it should be very rare that you would use the word paraprofessional in this box.)