

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY

The Department of Education provides resourcing under the restricted diagnosis termed Global Developmental Delay (GDD), for young children who enter kindergarten already receiving comprehensive early intervention services from a paediatrician. This resource is provided to allow for the smooth transition to school for those students with pre-diagnosed delays in multiple areas of development.

Global Developmental Delay is an appropriate restricted diagnosis status where a child shows significant statistical delay in two or more of the following developmental domains on the same assessment tools:

- gross/fine motor
- speech/language
- cognition
- social/personal
- activities of daily living

Significant delay is defined as performance two standard deviations or more below the mean on an individual, age-appropriate, standardised, culturally relevant test of functioning.

Eligibility ceases at the end of pre-primary or the student's 6th birthday whichever is earliest. Students require an alternative diagnosis to receive ongoing funding when Global Developmental Delay eligibility ceases.

Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility for funding under GDD is determined on the basis of documented information from the managing paediatrician. This category is applicable to students who are under the prior care of a paediatrician before entering kindergarten.

The following evidence is required to be submitted in order for Disability Services and Support to confirm eligibility for funding:

1. A signed medical report from a paediatrician providing:
 - a statement of the diagnosis Global Developmental Delay (full title required)
 - confirmation the diagnosis is based on an assessment conducted within 12 months preceding the first day of kindergarten (assessment tools may include the Griffiths Mental Developmental Scales or the Bayley Scales of Infant Development)
 - the standardised scores, including the Z scores and General Quotient from the recent assessment, as listed above
 - a statement that no other pre-diagnosed conditions could better account for the areas of significant delay upon which the diagnosis is based

Please note: When the diagnosis is based on significant delays in areas explained by pre-diagnosed conditions e.g. speech language delay for a student with a diagnosed language/disorder/motor delay or a student with diagnosed developmental coordination disorder eligibility under GDD will not be confirmed.

Students meeting the eligibility criteria for GDD yet undergoing an assessment for Autism Spectrum Disorder will be funded under the interim Autism Spectrum Disorder category.

Privacy and Confidentiality

The Department of Education is committed to protecting privacy, integrity of information obtained and confidentiality. All personal information must be obtained by lawful and fair means with the knowledge and consent of the person to whom it relates. Persons must be told why personal information is being collated and whether it may be accessible to any third party.

This includes parents of students who are under 18 years of age.

Parents or carers are directed to contact local school staff for further information.