



# Let's Talk

## Service Delivery Models and SLPs in Schools

“ My son, Daniel, had trouble talking with teachers and friends at school. He interrupted and didn't know how to start a conversation. The school team met and talked about the help he needs. I was surprised to hear that he can get help from the SLP in the general classroom, outside of the classroom, in a small group, or other ways.”

—Angie

### What Is “Service Delivery”?

Service delivery is how the speech-language pathologist, or SLP, works on the goals from the IEP, or individualized education program. Service delivery recommendations tell you how many times a week your child will have therapy, for how many minutes, and where. For example, the SLP may work with your child by herself or in a small group, inside or outside the classroom. Or, rather than seeing your child, the SLP may give you and your child's teacher tips that will help your child.

### How Will I Know What Is Best for My Child?

The IEP team will decide on the type of service based on your child's needs. The IEP team will include you, the SLP, your child's teacher, the principal, and any other professionals who work with your child in the school. Decisions about your child's services will be based on your child's needs and progress that is made during therapy.

### What Are the Different Types of Service Delivery?

There are several ways to deliver speech and language services in the schools. The most common ways are:

- **Collaborative Consultation:** The SLP works with the teachers and families. The SLP does not work directly with the student.
- **Monitor:** The SLP sees the student during each grading period to check on speech and language skills.

#### Fast facts

- Children in school can get help to communicate.
- The speech-language pathologist, or SLP, can go into the classroom. The SLP may teach to the whole class or work with a small group.
- The SLP may also take students to a separate room to work together.

- **Classroom-Based:** The SLP works in the classroom. The classroom teacher and the SLP may teach together or may take turns teaching parts of the lesson.
- **Combination:** The SLP provides service in two or more ways. For example, the SLP works with a student in a small group two times a week and also works daily in the classroom.
- **Pullout:** The SLP works with children one-on-one or in small groups outside of the classroom.
- **Self-Contained Classroom:** The SLP is the classroom teacher and teaches all or most subjects.
- **Community-Based:** The SLP works with students in the home or community. The focus is on communication skills needed for daily living.

Services are based on your child's needs. At times, some children will do better outside of the classroom. Sometimes, they just need extra help inside the classroom. Over time, your child could have services many different ways. Talk with your SLP about the best type of services for your child.

“The IEP team just met again to talk about Daniel's progress. He is raising his hand in the classroom and now has two good friends! The SLP thinks that it's time to change his services to once a week and work with him in the classroom instead of the small group. The SLP also gave me and the teacher ways to help Daniel start more conversations in school and at home.”

—Angie

### Speech and language problems can change a child's life. Help is available.

To learn more about speech and language disorders or to find an SLP near you who has been certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), visit [www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org) or call 800-638-8255 or (TTY) 301-296-5650.

My SLP's name is

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Appointment

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