

Professionals and Services

for Children and Youth with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Children with intellectual and developmental disabilities can receive services from professionals within early care and education, school, health care, community, and home settings.

These professionals are part of a child's support team. It is helpful to understand the services provided by these professionals in order to support healthy behaviors.

Professionals

Behavioral Health Professionals (BHP) work directly with children in their home, school or community to implement Individual Treatment Plans under the supervision of more highly-trained staff.

Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA) analyze children's behavior in different settings to develop plans that promote desirable behavior.

Educational Technicians (Ed Tech) provide instructional support to children under the direct supervision of a classroom teacher.

Occupational Therapists (OT) provide services that enhance children's ability to function in different environments. An OT can also address sensory processing issues, such as oversensitivity to certain food textures.

Physical Therapists (PT) provide services that address children's posture, muscle strength, mobility, and range of motion.

Recreation Therapists (RT) provide services that address children's physical and social skills to improve their participation in recreational and leisure activities.

Social Workers provide services that address mental or behavioral health, including positive behavioral support and individual and group counseling. They can also help access resources and coordinate services.

Special Educators help children achieve their highest potential and progress beyond their limitations. Special educators work directly with children but also determine how children can be accommodated in regular education settings.

Special Education Consultants provide educational assessments, consultation, and interventions for the purpose of identification, programming, or appropriate classroom placement.

Speech and Language Pathologists (SLP) provide services that address children's communication problems, such as impaired articulation, and social skills, such as starting a conversation or taking turns.



Services

Case Management is a MaineCare-reimbursed service for children ages 0 to 20 diagnosed with a mental health, intellectual or developmental disability or for children ages 0 to 5 who are at risk of developmental delay. Case managers provide support to children and their families while connecting them to resources and services in their own communities.

Home and Community Treatment Services (HCT) are MaineCare-reimbursed service for children who have significant behavioral challenges. HCT provides children and their families with short-term, intensive counseling and support. Services are described in a child's Individual Treatment Plan (ITP). HCT services may also be referred to as "Section 65 Services," (which refers to the section of the MaineCare manual).

Rehabilitative and Community Support Services (RCS) are MaineCare-reimbursed services for children with cognitive impairments and functional limitations. Services are designed to help children with their daily living and social skills, and/or to address any behavioral needs. Services can be provided in a home, in the community and at school. Services may be referred to as "Section 28 Services" (which refers to the section of the MaineCare manual).