



Tip Sheet: Documenting Related Services Support Descriptions (RSSD)

There are many options/combinations of options to document the various services and supports provided through related services. This Tip Sheet provides examples of options to embed these details, previously captured using a separate stand-alone form, formerly known as the Related Services Support Description (RSSD), within the individualized education program (IEP).

Services documented on an RSSD are typically less frequent than direct services documented in the Related Services part of the IEP and may not be best described as daily or weekly. Therefore, these services are better described as supplemental and most often provided in support of a student rather than directly to a student.

Federal regulations and state policy define supplementary aids and services as:

“aids, services, and other supports that are provided in regular education classes, other educated-related settings, and in extracurricular and nonacademic settings, to enable children with disabilities to be education with nondisabled children to the maximum extent appropriate in accordance with the least restrictive environment requirements”. [34 CFR §300.42 and NC 1500-2.34]

1. RSSD¹ – Description of Student Needs

- Explanation of Why Support is Needed

ECATS: IEP - Special Factors

The screenshot displays two sections of the ECATS IEP Special Factors form. Each section has a 'Yes/No' dropdown menu with 'Yes' selected. Below this is a 'Location' section with three checkboxes: 'Goals', 'Services' (checked), and 'Accommodations'. A fourth checkbox, 'Communication Plan Worksheet', is also present. To the right of these checkboxes is a text box labeled 'Description of Student Needs (Supplementary Aids and Services)'. The text box in the second section is highlighted with a pink border.

¹ Items 1 – 4 are examples of the information previously collected using the stand-alone RSSD form prior to the implementation of ECATS. This list is not exhaustive and is simply meant to provide a reference as to the types of information that may be needed to appropriately describe supplementary aids and services.



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Does the student have a documented hearing loss? COMMUNICATION PLAN WORKSHEET

If yes, must complete the Communication Plan Worksheet

Yes/No	Location	Additional Information
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Goals <input type="checkbox"/> Accommodations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communication Plan Worksheet
		Description of Student Needs (Supplementary Aids and Services)

Supports for academic, functional, personal changes or circumstances (if applicable)

What information is known about the student that will assist in developing an individualized education program?

Not applicable at this time

2. RSSD – Classroom Intervention

- Interventions provided by classroom staff with related service provider support/training for teachers and staff
- Evidence of implementation includes program descriptions and service logs
- Examples:
 - Positioning Program (e.g. in wheelchair, stander or other equipment)
 - Campus/Classroom Access with/without Assistive Device
 - Assistive Technology/Augmentative Communication, and Adapting Switches/Toys
 - Monitor Equipment
 - Support with Unique Mealtime Needs
 - Sensory Processing Modifications
 - Transfers
 - Provide Staff Development/Modeling Techniques

ECATS: IEP - Special Factors (same as above)

ECATS: Services – Additional Service Information

Describe consultation and/or training for school staff to meet the unique needs of the student:

Description of Classroom Intervention (Supplementary Aids and Services)

Not applicable at this time

Describe special transportation services:

Description of Equipment Needed



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3. RSSD – Related Service Provider Support

- Examples:
 - Instruction for Interventions Implemented by Classroom Staff, Use of Equipment
 - Observations of Students in Classroom Settings
 - Monitor Programs (cite specifically)
 - Integrating IEP Goals with Core Instruction/NC Course of Study
 - Adaptation (including assignments and assessments), Accommodations, Integration of Skills or Consultation for Participation in and/or with Class
 - Analyze and Engineer Environments, Increasing Opportunities for Communication and/or Access
 - Programming Assistive Technology/Augmentative Communication and Adapting Switches and Toys
 - Check in with Bus Drivers and Paraprofessionals
 - Equipment Monitor/Adjustment
 - Prepare Classroom Materials including Home Practice/Materials to Support Generalization of Skills
 - Communicate and Coordinate with Outside Agencies
 - Facilitate Transitions to Community-Based Instructional Opportunities
 - Evacuation Planning Support/Consultation

ECATS: IEP > Special Factors (same as above)

ECATS: IEP > Services > Additional Service Information (same as above)

ECATS: IEP > Services Goal Integration > Add Supplemental Aids

Reading

Area in Need of SDI: Reading

Present Level of Performance: Mario is able to accurately read 9/10 closed syllable words containing consonants blends and digraphs. He can decode CVC words with blends (ie: sp-, br-), but does not decode words with long vowel patterns (CVCe) or vowel team syllables. He is unable to apply phonics and word analysis skills to decode unfamiliar words in 2nd grade levels passages with accuracy and automaticity. This also affects his comprehension of materials because he must stop frequently when encountering unfamiliar words. He is unable to independently respond to questions after reading passages at this level, but is able to respond when given moderate verbal cues on where locate the information in the text.

Supplemental Aids and/or Services:

Goal	Service(s) supporting this goal	Edit
Reading Annual Goal #1	Speech/Language Reading	EDIT GOAL INTEGRATION
Reading Annual Goal #2	Reading	EDIT GOAL INTEGRATION

[ADD SUPPLEMENTAL AIDS](#)

[BACK](#) [SHOW SECTION](#) [SAVE](#) [SAVE & CONTINUE >>](#)



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4. RSSD – Equipment Needed (personal or classroom)

- Examples:
 - Switches/Toys
 - Splints/Braces
 - Computer Adaptation
 - Positioning Devices
 - Toileting Aids/Devices/Supports
 - Mat/Mat Table
 - Walker/Ambulation Aid
 - Stander
 - Adapted Chair
 - Other Positioning Device (be specific)
 - Wheelchair
 - Wheelchair Tray
 - Adapted Eating Utensils/Equipment
 - Adapted Classroom Tools
 - Sensory Processing Tools

ECATS: IEP > Services > Additional Service Information (same as above)

ECATS: IEP > Present Level(s) of Academic and Functional Performance > Additional Information

Additional Information

Describe any relevant medical information:

ECATS: IEP > Accommodations > Custom Accommodations

Custom Accommodations

Custom Accommodation 1	<input type="text"/>
Custom Accommodation 2	<input type="text"/>
Custom Accommodation 3	<input type="text"/>