

## 9. What is meant by exclusionary factors?

### **Answer:**

Exclusionary factors are aspects of the student's background and/or experience which might influence a student's performance. These factors must be considered before a student can be determined as having a specific learning disability. The multi-disciplinary team must rule out causes such as visual, hearing, or motor disabilities, cognitive or emotional disabilities, cultural factors, environmental or economic disadvantages, and limited English proficiency as the primary reason for a student's difficulty before that student can be found to have a specific learning disability.

### **Evidence:**

"Exclusionary factors are the lens through which the other criteria (insufficient response to intensive, scientific research-based or evidence-based interventions [SRBIs]) and inadequate classroom achievement are examined. The IEP team analyzes insufficient progress and inadequate classroom achievement in light of data about exclusionary factors to determine the degree to which each factor affects the student's performance." (Pg. 30)

"In accordance with the SLD rule, a student may not be found to have a Specific Learning Disability if the IEP team determines any one of the exclusionary factors listed in the rule is the primary reason for the student's insufficient progress and/or inadequate classroom achievement. The exclusionary factors are: environmental or economic disadvantage; limited English proficiency; cultural factors; other impairments; lack of appropriate instruction in reading, math or any of the eight achievement areas being considered within SLD [Wis. Admin. Code § PI 11.36(6)(d) 1.]." (Pg. 31)

***Wisconsin's Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD) Rule: A Technical Guide for Determining the Eligibility of Students with Specific Learning Disabilities, Updated December 2013, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. <http://sped.dpi.wi.gov/files/sped/pdf/sld-guide.pdf>***