

Goals and Objectives

Goals and objectives are written statements in the IEP that describe what the student will learn or focus on in the upcoming year in school. IEP goals look at building the overall skill, while the objectives can be described as the steps and expected timeline benchmarks to get there. The Connecticut IEP form includes the word benchmark with the objectives.

IEP Goals and Objectives:

- Are written by the Planning and Placement Team (PPT) each year
- Are expected to be achieved or mastered in one year
- Should be specific and measurable
- Should be written based on the student's strengths and needs (present levels of performance).
- Should be ambitious, but attainable
- Should be aligned with grade-level standards
- Progress should be monitored and reported on throughout the school year

Here is an example of a goal with objectives/benchmarks:

Goal: Given a choice of 3 letters, Sam will independently identify all 26 letters of the alphabet without adult prompting in 4 out of 5 opportunities.

Objective/Benchmark 1: By December 1, 2022, given a choice of 3 letters, Sam will independently identify 9 letters of the alphabet without adult prompting in 4 out of 5 opportunities.

Objective/Benchmark 2: By March 1, 2023, given a choice of 3 letters, Sam will independently identify 18 letters of the alphabet without adult prompting in 4 out of 5 opportunities.

Objective/Benchmark 3: By June 1, 2023, given an array of 3 letters, Sam will independently identify 26 letters of the alphabet without adult prompting in 4 out of 5 opportunities.