

Adapted Physical Education and Related Service Provisions

The APE teacher is a **direct service provider**, not a related service provider, because special physical education is a federally mandated component of special education services [U.S.C.A. 1402(25)]. Direct service personnel are those professionals identified in the federal laws as having a primary educational responsibility for individuals with disabilities.

The APE professional is NOT a related service provider. Related services are provided so the individual with disabilities can benefit from instruction. The primary function of related services personnel is to assure that the individual's educational goals on the Individual Education Plan (IEP) can be met. The following defines related service personnel:

In general, the final regulations for IDEA '97 define the term *related services* as "transportation and such developmental, corrective, and other supportive services as are required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education..." [Section 300.24(a)]. The following are included within the definition of related services:

- speech-language pathology and audiology services;
- psychological services;
- physical and occupational therapy;
- therapeutic recreation;
- early identification and assessment of disabilities in children;
- counseling services, including rehabilitation counseling;
- orientation and mobility services;
- medical services for diagnostic or evaluation purposes;
- school health services;
- social work services in schools;
- parent counseling and training; and
- transportation. [Section 300.24(a)].

Reference

<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/IDEA>