

GLOSSARY:

Balance Impairment: Balance which is a result of several systems of the body working together: the visual system (eyes), vestibular system (ears) and proprioception (the body's sense where it is in space); degeneration or loss of function in any of these systems can lead to balance deficits or balance disorder. It is a disturbance that causes an individual to feel unsteady.

Cognitive Impairment: Also known as intellectual or learning impairment; cognitive impairment refers to a reduced capacity to learn tasks or process information. It is a condition that makes it difficult for an individual to take in information and communicate what they know. Reading, writing or mathematics are the causes of cognitive impairment.

Developmental Impairment: A diverse group of chronic conditions that is due to mental or physical impairments causing individuals living with them many difficulties in certain areas of life, especially in language, mobility, learning, self-help and independent living, which may be detected early in life and persist throughout an individual's lifespan.

Emotional Impairment: Emotional impairment is a term which is used to cover many mental and emotional health issues. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) uses the term emotional disturbance and elaborates it as a condition exhibiting one or more of the following characteristics over a long period of time and to a marked degree that adversely affects a child's educational performance:

- An inability to learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory or health factors.
- An inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and teachers.
- Inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances.
- A general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression
- A tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems.

Mental Impairment: Mental impairment may develop at any age and is often not apparent to other people and are often the most misunderstood in the community. It may include stress-related conditions, major depression, bipolar disorder, anxiety and schizophrenia.

Olfactory and Gustatory Impairment: Olfactory refers to smell and gustatory refers to taste, an olfactory and gustatory impairment is a loss of smell and taste which is of major importance in nutrition and food selection, making them crucial

for maintaining better quality of life. A person loses the ability to smell the pleasant fragrance of flowers, sweet perfumes and delicious meals that contribute towards the small joys of life. Further an individual also loses the ability to taste sweet beverages, succulent dishes and delicious baked goods as well.

Physical Impairment: A person with affected mobility or dexterity who uses some sort of equipment for assistance with mobility.

Sensory Impairment: A temporary or permanent loss or abnormality of body structure or function that occurs to the structure of the eyes or ears affecting the normal functioning of vision and hearing senses.

Somatosensory Impairment: Somatosensation refers to the sensations that arise from the skin. These sensations include the ability to feel light touch; localize a touch; discriminate temperature; identify an object and the ability to feel pain. Somatosensory impairment refers to any type of impairment that affects one's ability to effectively and accurately process input received from sensory receptors in the skin which may occur in any part or area of the body.