

## TBI Definition & Criteria Checklist

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) means an acquired injury to the brain caused by an external physical force or by other medical conditions, including but not limited to stroke, anoxia, infectious disease, aneurysm, brain tumors and neurological insults resulting from medical or surgical treatments. The injury results in total or partial functional disability or psychosocial impairment or both, that adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term applies to open or closed head injuries, as well as to other medical conditions that result in acquired brain injuries.

The injuries result in impairments in one or more areas such as:

Cognition	Memory	Abstract Thinking	Sensory	Psychosocial behavior
Speech	Attention	Judgment	Perceptual	Physical Functions
Language	Reasoning	Problem-solving	Motor	Information Processing

The term does not apply to brain injuries that are congenital or degenerative, or to brain injuries induced by birth trauma.

---

In order for a student to be eligible for special education and related services under the category of TBI, Item A, item B, and item C must be met:

A. There is documentation by a physician of a medically verified traumatic brain injury in the student's school records

AND

B. There is a functional impairment attributable to the traumatic brain injury that adversely affects educational performance in one or more of the following areas:

Cognition	Memory	Abstract Thinking	Sensory	Psychosocial behavior
Speech	Attention	Judgment	Perceptual	Physical Functions

Language	Reasoning	Problem-solving	Motor	Information Processing
----------	-----------	-----------------	-------	------------------------

AND

C. The functional impairments are NOT primarily the result of previously existing:

- Brain injuries that are congenital or degenerative, or to brain injuries induced by birth trauma or as a result of other medical conditions such as epilepsy,
- Vision, hearing, or motor impairments,
- Emotional or behavioral disorders,
- Intellectual disability,
- Language-based or specific learning disabilities, or
- Environmental or economic disadvantage or cultural differences.