

How much time each day is the SLP in your classroom?

Danielle: It varies from day to day and follows each student's IEP. Our speech teacher is in our school four days a week and travels to another school one day a week. She is with us for about an hour every morning and then comes in throughout the day.

Pat: I spend between 1-2 hours in Danielle's classroom, depending on the day. In the 2nd grade LLD class, I am in there 1 ½ hours a day.

Do you have a sense of how many students are on each of the SLPs case loads?

Danielle: Pat can address her caseload, but the numbers vary every year. In my class this year, I have 11 students and 9 receive speech therapy. Since so many students in one class need services, it just makes sense to use a push in model for speech. It helps me learn the interventions that Pat is applying and I can continue those throughout the day when she is not in the room.

Pat: My caseload has 50 students (pre-K to 3). That is the lowest number I've ever had.

Is this service model considered a billable service in Medicaid?

Danielle: As per New Jersey, our district is required to submit to Medicaid provided that we have over 30 students receiving special services as per the [Special Education Medicaid Initiative \(SEMI\)](#). Parents need to sign permission for our district to receive Medicaid funding if eligible. Speech therapy is permissible for reimbursement for Medicaid if the speech provider has a Master's Degree and holds a Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC), a nationally recognized professional credential that represents a level of excellence in the field of Audiology (CCC-A) or Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP). We receive approximately \$10 per session provided that the session is in the IEP and only 1 related service was delivered per day. (If the occupational therapist also met with a student on the same day, we cannot claim that session.)

I would love to hear about the speech language pathologist schedule. Do you go into one classroom per grade level, or do you have time carved out for individual sessions as well? How many students on your caseload? I would love to know about the logistics to make integrated speech successful.

Pat: My caseload has 50 students (pre-K to 3). That is the lowest number I've ever had. My schedule is split into 30 minutes sections for each day. As stated in an IEP, sessions are 30 minutes long. So I create a schedule based on each student's needs. I try to schedule students from the same class together, making scheduling easier for myself and the teacher.

In regards to our special education classes, I figure out the amount of time needed then block off time in my schedule to meet each student's needs. For example, I have 2 students who receive speech 4 times a week, twice individually and twice in a group. So right there I know I need 6 spaces.

The Logistics behind it-first was an idea from the director of special services. You need to find teachers who are willing to try it. Many teachers don't want an intrusion like that.

Do you go into one classroom per grade level?

Danielle: I teach in a Language Learning Disabled class and it is usually a combination of second and third graders. This year, I only have third graders. But when we are multi-grades, services are for both grades.

Pat: No, I tend to go into our self contained classes since most of my caseload is in those classes. However, I do have general education classes with many students receiving speech. I may work with those students within the confines of the room as to not disrupt instructional time.

We might need to follow up with Pat but, do you have time carved out for individual sessions as well?

Danielle: Yes, she has time carved out for individual sessions. All sessions are based on a student's IEP.

Pat: I do have spots in my schedule for students who receive individual sessions.

There are a lot of questions about caseload. How much time is she able to spend in your class vs other sessions?

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