

Checklist for Writing Goals

Clarity	YES	NO
Is the goal written clearly enough that any other person would interpret it the same way?		
Does it pass the <i>Stranger Test</i> ?		
Is the goal specific enough to be clear and not too broad?		
Does it leave out confusing educational jargon?		
Observable		
Will you be able to tell when the student has achieved the goal?		
Can you state what will you see?		
Positive		
Is the goal stated in a manner that is positive, telling what the student will do?		
Does it pass the <i>Dead Man's Test</i> ?		
Growth		
Does the goal state what the student can reasonably be expected to learn within one year?		
Relevance		
Is the goal relevant and practical considering the student's:		
• age		
• years left in school		
• academic needs		
• vocational needs		
• transition needs based on student preferences		
• social needs		
• functional needs		
Linked		
PLAAFP		
• Is the present level for this goal stated in the PLAAFP?		
• Is there a goal of each area of need addressed in the PLAAFP?		
State Standards		
• Is the goal aligned with State Standards?		
Objectives		
• Are there at least two objectives for the goal?		