



Regional & Statewide Resources for the Itinerant Physical/Health Disabilities (P/HD) Teacher (revised June 2016)

Programs & Services

- **Minnesota Low Incidence Projects:** www.mnlowincidenceprojects.org

This statewide program is funded through a grant from the MN Department of Education, and is designed to assist school districts across the state in fulfilling federal requirements in the areas of implementation of IDEA, professional development, and insuring the availability of high quality staff in the low incidence areas of special education. Technical assistance is offered as a major component of this project. Low incidence areas and services supported by this grant include: Physically Impaired (PI); Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI); DeafBlindness (DB); Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD); Developmental Adapted Physical Education (DAPE); School-Based Occupational & Physical Therapy (OT/PT); Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI); and Tuition Support for P/HD and BVI low incidence licensure areas.

The **PI, OHD and TBI webpages** provide many resources for the P/HD, OHD and/or TBI specialist, including brochures, manuals, technical training materials, licensure information, service delivery considerations and guidelines, student evaluation protocol, electronic resources, information for families, and more. (Much of this information can also be found in the PI, OHD and TBI educator manuals.)

- **Minnesota Department of Education:** www.education.state.k12.mn.us

The MN Department of Education provides oversight and support to all of Minnesota's public schools and services. Many resources can be found on this site, including teacher licensure information, child count data, Minnesota rules and regulations, and much more.

- **Regional Low Incidence Projects:** These projects operate throughout the eleven educational regions of the state, providing coordination and support to educators who serve children and youth with low incidence disabilities. For a complete listing of Regional Low Incidence Facilitators (RLIF) and contact information, refer to the main website page of the MN Low Incidence Projects.
- **Statewide Low Incidence Specialists:** There are statewide low incidence specialists assigned to each of the low incidence special education areas. To locate information about a specific specialist, visit the [MN Low Incidence Projects](http://www.mnlowincidenceprojects.org) or the [MN Department of Education](http://www.education.state.k12.mn.us) websites.



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Professional Communities of Practice

- **Statewide Physical/Health Disabilities (P/HD) Community of Practice**

There are approximately 140 members on the MN Physical/Health Disabilities Statewide CoP, with approximately 70-80 members attending meetings on a regular basis, including Greater MN members who attend remotely via video-conference. There are 2 full day meetings held each year, in addition to a shorter spring CoP meeting held in conjunction with the annual Charting the C's/Cross-Categorical Conference, of which the P/HD CoP is a conference partner. Past initiatives have addressed the topics of professional recruitment, licensure standards, post-secondary training, revisions to professional manuals, and development of additional resource materials. Meetings are facilitated by the Statewide PI/OHD specialist and a P/HD CoP steering committee. For more information on the history of this CoP, or how to become a member, contact your regional low incidence facilitator or the statewide specialist.

- **Statewide TBI Community of Practice**

The Statewide TBI Educational CoP is a representative group of professionals that was created in 2000 to bring individuals together who share a common goal of meeting the needs of children and youth with traumatic brain injury and their families. Toward this end, CoP members address the issues of regional and state professional development, dissemination of/access to materials and resources. Additionally, the CoP serves as a link between regional teams and the statewide TBI specialist in an endeavor to identify local issues, professional development needs, and available resources. Educational regions throughout the State identify regional TBI specialists to serve as CoP representatives and are joined by other community agency stakeholders, such as representatives from the MN Brain Injury Alliance, rehabilitation and medical clinics/hospitals, state and local agencies, parents, and advocacy organizations. Meetings are held twice a year in the fall and spring. For more information on the history of the CoP, contact the Statewide TBI specialist.

- **Regional P/HD and TBI Communities of Practice**

All regions support regional CoP meetings, which occur periodically throughout the school year. These meetings provide an opportunity for regional resource sharing and professional development. For more information about a specific regional CoP, contact the Regional Low Incidence Facilitator.



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Statewide Mail Lists (formerly known as list servs)

The MN Low Incidence Projects hosts the statewide P/HD, OHD and TBI Mail Lists, which are available to educators in those areas, special education administrators, and other interested professionals who subscribe to this electronic service, and allows users to send/share information with other members of the mail list. Some typical uses include: Requesting information about a specific issue or question related to the provision of services, evaluation tools, disability-specific information, community resources, adaptations, etc. Users are asked not to include confidential information about a student that would be covered under the Data Privacy Act. PI, OHD and TBI conference brochures, trainings, IHE courses, surveys, resources, tools, state CoP meeting notices and minutes may also be posted. For more information on member subscription, directions for posting messages, professional standards and protocol, visit the MN Low Incidence Disabilities website.

Educator Manuals

Manuals listed with an * can be downloaded from the MN Low Incidence Projects website; others can be downloaded from the MN Department of Education website.

- **PI Manual:** Meeting the Needs of Students with Physical Impairments: A Resource Manual for Minnesota Educators (revised 2011)*
- **TBI Manual:** Special Education Evaluation and Services for Students with Traumatic Brain Injury: A Manual for Minnesota Educators (Revised 2013)*
- **OHD Manual:** Other Health Disabilities Manual(Updated 2013)*
- **Minnesota Assistive Technology Manual**
- **Compliance Manual for Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973** (Updated November 2014)
- **MN Manual of Accommodations for Students with Disabilities in Instruction and Assessment**

Physical/Health Disabilities Wiki

The P/HD Wiki is a shared resource site for P/HD teachers; members can post and download information pertinent to serving students with physical/health disabilities. To join, go to:

<http://mnphdnetwork.pbworks.com>

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