



When can a child receive school-based PT (SBPT)?

- As early as 3-years old
- Student must go through an evaluation
- Student must meet various special education criteria
- Can be done AT ANYTIME between the ages of 3-21
- Do not need to wait for 3 year re-evaluation if already has an IEP
- Can be re-evaluated after dismissal if a SBPT need should arise

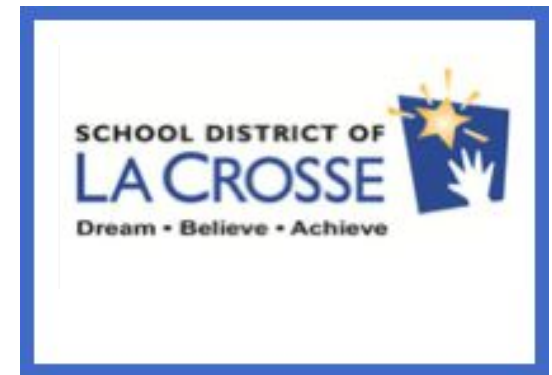
How does a referral and evaluation work?

- Referral can come from:
 - Parent
 - Teacher
 - Administration
 - Physician
- School psychologist gets info
- The team completes a review of information
- The team determine what testing is needed
- Parents sign permission to eval
- Team completes evaluations
- Team meets
 - To discuss findings
 - To determine eligibility for services
- If student is found eligible the team will determine:
 - The student's needs
 - The student's goals
 - Establish service plan
- Entire process can take several months
- Please keep in communication with the team with questions or concerns

La Crosse's Physical Therapists:
Lindsey Shay, MSPT, DPT
Bethany Peterson, DPT

School District of La Crosse
807 East Ave S
La Crosse WI 54601
608-789-7600

Together We Make The Difference



School-based Physical Therapy



<https://www.lacrosseschools.org/>

What is School Based Physical Therapy?

School Based physical therapy (SBPT) is when a licensed physical therapist works with a child in the school setting to help maximize their independence and mobility in addition to minimizing the impact of physical differences on their ability to access their school experience.

SBPT is a Related Service!

What does this mean?

This means a child needs to qualify for special education services first. This could be under any criteria such as: early childhood, learning disability, speech & language, or specially designed programming. If the child's team determines they have needs or goals that the physical therapist can support, they can be a part of the team.

What is the Role of a SBPT?

A PT is part of the child's team and will work closely with the student and student's classroom staff to provide assessment, intervention, consultation, training, and guidance for the staff and student on how to best meet the student's gross motor and mobility needs on a day to day basis. It is NOT a substitute for out-patient physical therapy.

Who could Benefit from SBPT?

A student who demonstrate physical difficulties with performing basic school tasks such as:

- Sitting for instruction
- Standing safely in line
- Walking to keep up with peers
- Running to play games
- Difficulty in PE class
- Jumping & climbing on the playground
- Children NOT meeting developmental milestone

What Services are provided by SBPT?

- Assessing school environments for accessibility and safety
- Assisting in the development of strategies to support students gross motor and mobility needs
- Developing & monitoring a plan for use of school owned and personal adaptive mobility equipment
- Training staff on use and safety of adaptive equipment
- Direct services to address specific motor skills or mobility needs

Why SBPT?

A student's ability to learn and interact with peers can be negatively impacted by a student's ability to demonstrate gross motor skills or to move independently around a school. SBPT can assist in minimizing this impact.

Where can services occur?

- General classroom
- Special Education Classroom
- Lunchroom
- Music room
- Art room
- Gym
- LMC
- Bathroom
- Playground
- Bus and bus line
- Field trip experiences



Can SBPT consult on a or screen a student?

No direct observations or student specific recommendations can occur without a referral and parent permission. PTs can give basic ideas and recommendations for a classroom but not for a specific student.