

# What is Adapted Music Education (AME)?

## Adapted Music Education and The Department of Special Education

## Who is Eligible for Adapted Music Education Services?

### Introduction

The Department of Special Education, Richmond County Board of Education, recognizes the value of including music education into the Special Education Curriculum. As a result of this commitment, the Department of Special Education created the Adapted Music Education Program in 1973 to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which list related services as an important part of educating the student with a disability.

Adapted Music Education is a **related service** provided by the Department of Special Education, Richmond County Board of Education specifically designed to enhance learning and social skills through music.

Adapted Music Education shall be available to every student with a disability (SWD) receiving a free appropriate public education. Students with a disability shall be afforded an opportunity to participate in general music education programs. However, the needs of some students may require a modified general music appreciation curriculum or an individually designed music appreciation plan, specifically developed to address the need of an individual student.

Students who are Severely Intellectually Disabled, Profoundly Intellectually Disabled, or Moderately Intellectually Disabled with Autism, as assessed by their IEP team, are eligible for Adapted Music Education instruction. Students who require Adapted Music Education demonstrate a severe disability in the area of social-emotional development, intellectual development, and/or sensory development. Adapted Music Education is designed to address the individual **instructional** need of the student by providing music appreciation instruction and music participation activities to students with a disability in a small group setting; with the student's peers or in an individual setting, with one-on-one instruction.

**Adapted Music Education Teachers** are certified music education teachers with the specialized skills and experience required to teach music appreciation, music instrument instruction, and music vocal instruction to students with disabilities. Adapted Music Teachers develop music activities that reinforce the modified general music education curriculum endorsed by Georgia Department of Education. Adapted Music Education teachers are listed as related service providers and are resident within the Department of Special Education.

**The Georgia Division of Exceptional Students – Regulations and Procedures** has determined that a student is eligible for Adapted Music Education, if the student is:

- Determined to have a severe range of disabling conditions...
  1. *Severely Intellectually Disabled*
  2. *Profoundly Intellectually Disabled*
- Screened by his or her IEP team for placement into the Adapted Music Education program.

Moderately Intellectually Disabled students with Autism are assessed and determined eligible by their IEP team.

The Special Education teacher and the Adapted Music Education teacher collaborate to develop adapted music goals for the student. These goals are included in the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP).

### Referrals:

Students with a Severe Intellectual Disability or Profound Intellectual Disability are, by the nature of the disability, automatically included in the Adapted Music Education Program. The IEP team of the student with a Moderate Intellectual Disability ***with Autism will evaluate the student*** for eligibility into the Adapted Music Education program.

Special Education teachers of students with a Moderate Intellectual Disability will need to submit a completed Adapted Music Education referral form along with documentation that supports the need for Adapted Music Education. The documentation should include a narrative observation of the student in the **general music education class and data from the general music education teacher**.

The student's IEP team will review the documentation and the decision regarding eligibility of the student will be documented in the **minutes** of the IEP. The services section of the front page of the IEP will display the decision to add Adapted Music Education to the list of services the student with disabilities will receive. If the student with disabilities is not eligible, Adapted Music Education will not be listed among the services the student will receive.

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