

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY **RESOURCES AND STATE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Local Resources

Brain Injury Association of Missouri
314-426-4024

www.biamo.org

Information and referral, legislation and advocacy, support groups, speaker's bureau, summer respite, outreach, newsletters, social activities.

Bridges Community Support Services
314-781-7900

www.bridgescss.com

Offers interpersonal counseling; OT, PT and speech therapies; behavior therapy and evaluations; supported living services, person-centered planning and more.

Epilepsy Foundation Missouri & Kansas
314-781-4949

800-264-6970

<http://efmk.org>

Education, support, employment assistance, counseling, residential assistance, volunteer opportunities.

Missouri Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation

North: 314-475-7999

South: 314-877-1900

West: 314-587-4877

<https://dese.mo.gov/adult-learning-rehabilitation-services/vocational-rehabilitation>

Assists eligible persons with disabilities in obtaining and maintaining quality employment.

Paraquad

314-289-4200

www.paraquad.org

Independent living services, youth and family programs, community programs.

Ranken-Jordan Pediatric Bridge Hospital
314-872-6400

www.rankenjordan.org

Provides 24-hour, sub-acute nursing care, rehabilitation and treatment for children with complex medical needs ages 2 weeks to 18 years. Brain injury rehabilitation program.

United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) Heartland
636-227-6030

www.ucpheartland.org

Parent-infant program, early learning center, home and center-based supports, occupational, physical and speech-language therapy, LEKOTEK program.

State Resources

Missouri Head Injury Advisory Council
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

<http://health.mo.gov/living/families/shcn/hiacouncil.php>

Studies and makes recommendations for prevention, emergency medical services, acute care, rehabilitation, educational services, long-term care, employment and community support services.

National Resources

Brain Injury Association, Inc.

www.biausa.org

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National Rehabilitation Information Clearinghouse (NARIC)
<http://www.naric.com/>

Ten Tips for Parents of School-age Children with Brain Injury

1. Keep a notebook including information about school programs, your child's teachers, class schedule, etc. Update it on a regular basis.

2. If your child is going to a new school, make sure records are transferred and inform the principal about your child's disability.

3. Establish an ongoing school contact whom you can turn to if you have questions or concerns.

4. Your child may be the first student with traumatic brain injury the school has served. You may have to become an educator to the staff about head injury while being an advocate for your child. Arrange to meet with your child's teachers to explain his or her head injury to them and how to best work with your son or daughter. You may also want to spend some time with other students and explain to them about head injury and its side effects. Kids often have questions and feel more comfortable around your child if they are given a chance to express their curiosity.

5. If your child is currently receiving rehabilitation services at a hospital or clinic, introduce school personnel to your child's therapists. Encourage them to communicate often about strategies and goals.

6. You may want to join a group for parents who have children with disabilities.

7. If you feel your child needs special education services, contact your child's teacher or principal and request an evaluation.

8. If you feel your child needs therapy that the school does not feel is educationally related, discuss your concerns with your doctor and make arrangement for a referral to a local hospital or clinic.

9. Work together with the other members of your child's Individual Education Program (IEP) team.

10. Take time to be with your child to learn new things about him or her as he or she grows, to listen to him or her, and to demonstrate love in a way he or she understands.

(From Missouri Head Injury Association newsletter)

DEFINITION AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FROM APPENDIX A OF THE MISSOURI STATE PLAN

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) **Definition**

A traumatic brain injury is an injury to the brain caused by an external physical force that adversely affects a child's educational performance. A traumatic brain injury can result in total or partial functional disability or psychological impairment, or both.

The term includes open or closed head injuries resulting in impairments in one

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or more areas including cognition, language, memory, attention, reasoning, abstract thinking, judgment, problem solving, sensory, perceptual and motor abilities, psychological behavior, physical functions, information processing and speech.

Initial Eligibility Criteria for Traumatic Brain Injury

A child has a Traumatic Brain Injury when:

- A. A traumatic brain injury/head injury has been diagnosed by a licensed physician or through a neuropsychological assessment;

- B. The student's educational performance is adversely affected by deficits in acquisition, retention, and/or generalization of skills. Students with a brain injury may have rapidly changing profiles, therefore, educational assessment should include current documentation of the student's functional capabilities and indicate deficits in one or more of the following areas:

- 1) Building or maintaining social competence;

- 2) Performance of functional daily living skills across settings;

- 3) The ability to acquire and retain new skills, and,

- 4) The ability to retrieve prior information.

Professional Judgment

A child may also be deemed eligible if the child displays characteristics of traumatic brain injury even though a physician has not made a medical diagnosis of head injury. In such cases, substantial data to document the medical basis for a head injury must be present in the evaluation report.