



## **Goal Writing 101**

### ***Ensuring Student Progress Through Objective Measurement***

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#### **4 Most Common Types of Goals**

- Academic
  - Measures the progress toward grade level work.
- Behavioral
  - Measures progress toward more appropriate behaviors in school and the community.
- Functional
  - Measures the progress that will allow the student to function effectively in the school and community. Communication, life skills, physical movement, emotional, social, etc.
- Transitional
  - Measure progress your high school student is making toward adulthood.

#### **All goals must be SMART**

- Specific
  - The goal must identify a specific item you want to improve.
- Measurable
  - You must be able to measure it objectively with data; not by “teacher observation”.
- Attainable
  - It must be something that the student can achieve, yet challenging.
- Relevant
  - It must be relevant to the student’s current levels and needs.
- Timebound
  - It must have an end date for success – goals should not go on for years.

#### **These are the 4 steps to creating a goal**

1. Start with the Present Level of Academic and Functional Performance (PLAFP); which should be based on data.
2. Compare the areas of performance against expectations. Remember to make expectations challenging!
3. Create the goals needed to close the gaps in performance.
4. Agree on the services, accommodations, and placement needed to best achieve the goals.