

## Case examples showing role of the Level 1 & Level 2 Credentialed Wheeled Mobility & Postural Management EMS Assessor for school aged children

Local Level Area Agreements between Health and Education services provide the detail around referrals and liaison with Wheeled Mobility & Postural Management (Level 2) Assessment Services. For the purposes of this document, Level 1 EMS Assessor refers to Ministry of Education Special Education Occupational Therapist or Physiotherapist with a Level 1 Credential in Wheeled Mobility & Postural Management. EMS Assessors who previously had Level 1 Seating or Level 2 Seating will have transitioned to the new Level 1 Wheeled Mobility & Postural Management Credential. Refer also to the full Wheeled Mobility and Postural Management Competency Framework [http://www.disabilityfunding.co.nz/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/54681/Competency-Framework-Wheeled-Mobility-and-Postural-Management.pdf](http://www.disabilityfunding.co.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/54681/Competency-Framework-Wheeled-Mobility-and-Postural-Management.pdf)

Case example 1	Case example 2	Case example 3
<p>Student with global developmental delay with an intellectual disability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Student is using a walker for all mobility needs for short distances around a familiar environment (home or school classroom)</li> <li>▪ Student requires a wheelchair for longer distances e.g. around the larger school environment and around shopping mall – unable to self propel due to intellectual disability– needs attendant operated chair.</li> <li>▪ No postural deformities at present</li> <li>▪ Standard cushion meets needs</li> </ul>	<p>Student with cerebral palsy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Postural asymmetry with potential risk of developing contractures and/or postural/spinal deterioration</li> <li>▪ Student able to mobilise independently with a walker for short distances around a familiar environment (home or school classroom)</li> <li>▪ For larger distances, student requires a self propelling wheelchair e.g. around school environment and around shopping mall</li> <li>▪ Needs readily available cushion and backrest</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment may be completed by a Level 1 EMS Assessor if the student can self-propel a standard manual wheelchair and be adequately supported with a backrest with generalised laterals supports</b></p>	<p>Student with spina bifida</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Significant postural needs due to asymmetry, lower limb muscular contractures. Impact of severe scarring at spina bifida lesion on spinal posture.</li> <li>▪ High risk of skin break down</li> <li>▪ High risk of poor lower limb circulation</li> <li>▪ Totally dependant on self propelling wheelchair for all mobility</li> <li>▪ Needs customised seating; <b>OR</b></li> </ul> <p>Student with severe physical disability with rapidly deteriorating and changing needs</p> <p><b><u>Action of Ministry of Education Special Education EMS Assessor:</u></b></p>

Case example 1	Case example 2	Case example 3
<p><b>Assessment may be completed by a Level 1 Wheeled Mobility &amp; Postural Management EMS Assessor.</b></p> <p><b><u>Reassessment of needs and "tweaking" to meet changing needs:</u></b></p> <p>Completed by Ministry of Education Special Education EMS Assessor; <b>OR</b></p> <p>Refer to Enable New Zealand / Accessable contracted technician services for support.</p>	<p><b>Application for wheelchair is completed by the Ministry of Education Special Education EMS Assessor as follows:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Independently complete the assessment, trial and application for the wheelchair/seating for the student, following discussion with local health team Child Development Team and family whanau; <b>OR</b></li> <li>▪ Refer to local Accessable/Enable New Zealand Outreach clinic (in regions where this service is available) – collaborative assessment of child with Accessable/Enable New Zealand Professional Advisor and explore all options/trial equipment. Principal application completed by Ministry of Education Special Education EMS Assessor but Accessable/Enable New Zealand provide support throughout the process.; <b>OR</b></li> <li>▪ Discuss student’s needs with Level 2 assessment service if there are concerns that the child’s needs may not be met with a standard manual wheelchair and back support with generalised laterals - this may result in a referral to a Level 2 assessment service.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Reassessment of needs and "tweaking" to meet changing needs:</u></b></p> <p>Completed by Ministry of Education Special Education EMS Assessor; <b>OR</b></p> <p>Referral to Enable New Zealand / Accessable contracted technician services for support; <b>OR</b></p> <p>Referral back to Accessable/Enable New Zealand Clinic; <b>OR</b></p> <p>As per case example 3 if referral to Level 2 assessor was considered appropriate</p>	<p><b>Application for the wheelchair and seating needs is completed by local wheelchair and seating assessment service</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Referral to wheelchair assessment service</li> <li>▪ Full collaboration throughout the process due to the knowledge and relationships with the family/whanau as principal therapist for the student.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Monitor and ongoing review and "tweaking" to meet changing needs:</u></b></p> <p>Completed by Ministry of Education Special Education EMS Assessor – adjustments made only if they have been part of the collaborative assessment process and understand the clinical reasoning and decisions made. Adjustments would be made to ensure comfort and safety prior to referral to:</p> <p>Enable New Zealand/ Accessable contracted technician services for support; <b>OR</b></p> <p>if significant changes refer back to Level 2 wheelchair and seating assessment service</p>