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## AUTISM

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Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Autism means the developmental disability significantly affecting verbal and nonverbal communication and social interaction, generally evident before age 3, that adversely affects a child's educational performance. Other characteristics often associated with autism are engagement in repetitive movements, resistance to environmental change or change in daily routines, and unusual responses to sensory experiences. The term does not apply if a child's educational performance is adversely affected primarily because the child has a serious emotional disturbance, as defined in 34 CFR 300.7(b)(9). Autism, when educationally defined, is a term applied to children who fall within the continuum of Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD), and, who exhibit the most severe behavioral and communication deficits within that continuum.

### Checklist for Determining Eligibility:

- Optional medical diagnosis of Autism or PDD
  
- Child characteristics consistent with state-recommended criteria
  
- Documentation of adverse effects
  
- Determination of need for special education and related services