Autism Spectrum Disorder

Autism spectrum disorder is a lifelong developmental disability that includes autistic disorder, Asperger's syndrome, and other pervasive developmental disorders, as described in the current version of the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. The disability is generally evident before three (3) years of age and significantly affects verbal, nonverbal, or pragmatic communication and social interaction skills and results in an adverse effect on the student's educational performance. Other characteristics often associated include the following:

(1) Engagement in:

(A) repetitive activities; and
(B) stereotyped movements.

(2) Resistance to:

(A) environmental change; or
(B) change in daily routines.

(3) Unusual responses to sensory experiences.