

Mild Intellectual

Disability

**Able to learn
practical life skills &
function in daily life.**

**Attains reading and
math skills up to
grade levels 3 -6.**

**Able to blend in
socially.**

Moderate Intellectual

Disability

**Noticeable
developmental
delays (i.e. speech,
motor skills)**

**May have physical
signs of impairment
(i.e. thick tongue)**

**Can communicate in
basic, simple ways**

**Able to learn basic
health and safety
skills**

**Can complete self-
care activities—
requires much
training.**

Severe Intellectual

Disability

**Considerable delays
in development**

**Understands speech,
but little ability to
communicate**

**Able to learn daily
routines**

**May learn some
very simple self-
care—with a lot of
training.**

**Needs direct
supervision in social
situations.**

Profound Intellectual

Disability

**Significant
developmental delays in
all areas (physical/
social/ emotional/
language/ speech)**

**Obvious physical and
congenital
abnormalities**

**Requires close
supervision/ Not
capable of
independent living**

**Requires complete
assistance in self-
care activities**