

DATA COLLECTION

Food preferences

Rejection:

- Refuses to open mouth for food, or
- Accepts one bite/taste then refuses to open mouth for subsequent bites or
- Behavior indicates that the student does not like the food, e.g. makes face, throws food on floor, pushed utensil away, spits food out.

Tolerance:

- Accepts 3 or more bites before refusing subsequent bites (see “Rejection” above).

Acceptance:

- Accepts entire portion of the food, allows self to be fed the food without rejection of food (see “Rejection” above).

Preference:

- Is willing to assist to feed self the food (with utensils or fingers); or
- If verbal, requests the food or to request more of the food; or
- Uses voice output device appropriately to request the food or to request more of the food; or
- Uses picture symbols, photographs, or food package pictures to request the food or to request more of the food; or
- Uses vocalizations or voice output device or picture symbols or photographs to choose the food from a selection of two or more food choices.

Additional considerations:

- Students with DCD and may refuse foods for any number of reasons, including: taste, smell, the feel of an unfamiliar eating utensil, the presence of an unfamiliar caregiver. To ascertain that a student is refusing a particular food, the best method is to allow more than one taste opportunity per session on each of two or more days.