

## Special Education Services

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### **Special Education: Process**

#### **Referral Process:**

A school staff member, parent, or a student may refer a student (ages 5-21) to the special education team to consider evaluation for special education services. Pre-referral strategies are recommended by the State Department of Education prior to the referral to special education.

If you believe your child may be eligible for and in need of special education services, please contact the school office where the child attends. A school office staff member will assist you in making contact with the special education personnel at that building. This person will assist you with the referral process.

#### **Evaluation Process:**

The parent is invited to attend a meeting to determine if an evaluation for special education should be conducted. If it is determined that an evaluation needs to be conducted, the parent must provide written permission for the evaluation. A determination of eligibility for special education will be made within 60 days of receipt of the signed parental consent for evaluation. If the child is determined to be eligible for special education an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) will be developed within 30 days of eligibility determination. According to the need and the concern for each individual student, the following is a list of areas that may be considered in the evaluation:

- File review of the student's academic grades
- Assessment scores
- Behavior referrals
- Academic assessments
- Intellectual assessment
- Receptive and expressive language assessment
- Assessment of the student's ability to function in daily routines at school
- Developmental history of the child
- Fine and gross motor abilities

This is not an exhaustive list; these are just some examples of assessments that the special education team may determine are appropriate to evaluate a student for special education services. The evaluation team may need information provided by the student's physician as well.

#### **Eligibility Process:**

A meeting is scheduled with the parent to review the evaluation results. The team may determine that the student meets eligibility requirements for special education, and that the student requires specially designed instruction. Special education services are provided for students meeting IDEA eligibility criteria in the following areas:

- Autism
- Intellectual Disability
- Deaf-Blindness

- Deafness
- Developmental Delay
- Emotional Disturbance
- Health Impairment
- Hearing Impairment
- Specific Learning Disability
- Multiple Disabilities
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Speech or Language Impairment
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Visual Impairment Including Blindness