

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Mt. Laurel Board of Education assures compliance with Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the New Jersey Administrative Code 6A:14-1 et seq. Furthermore, the Board will have programs and procedures in effect to ensure the following:

1. A free appropriate public education according to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.1(b)1 is available to all pupils with disabilities between the ages of three and twenty-one, including pupils with disabilities that have been suspended or expelled from school.
2. Full educational opportunity to all pupils with disabilities is provided.
3. All pupils with disabilities, who are in need of special education and related services, including pupils with disabilities attending non-public schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities, are located, identified and evaluated according to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.6 and 3.7.
4. An Individualized Education Program (IEP) is developed, reviewed and, as appropriate, revised according to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.6 and 3.7.
5. To the maximum extent appropriate, students with disabilities are educated in the least restrictive environment according to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.2
6. Pupils with disabilities are afforded procedural safeguards required by N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2. This will include the provision that any employee of the district or nonpublic agency that is involved in the education and/or care of the child will be excluded from consideration as a surrogate parent. The district will also disseminate a copy of the procedural safeguards statement to parent training and information centers, protection and advocacy agencies and other appropriate agencies to ensure that complaint procedures are widely disseminated to parents and other individuals.
7. Pupils with disabilities are evaluated according to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.5 and 3.4.
8. The compilation, maintenance, access to and confidentiality of pupil records are in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6:3-6.
9. Children with disabilities participating in Early Intervention Programs (EIP) assisted under IDEA Part C who will participate in preschool programs under this chapter experience a smooth transition, and that by the pupil's third birthday an IEP has been developed and is being implemented according to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.3(e).
10. Provision is made for the participation of pupils with disabilities who are placed by their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) in nonpublic schools according to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-6.1 and 6.2.

SPECIAL EDUCATION (Continued)

11. Pupils with disabilities who are placed in private schools by the district Board are provided special education and related services at no cost to their parents.
12. All personnel serving pupils with disabilities are appropriately certified and licensed, where a license is required.
13. The in-service training needs for professional and paraprofessional staff who provide special education, general education or related services are identified, and that appropriate in-service training is provided. The district Board shall maintain information to demonstrate its efforts to:
 - a. Prepare general and special education personnel with content knowledge and collaborative skills needed to meet the needs of children with disabilities;
 - b. Enhance the ability of teachers and others to use strategies, such as behavioral interventions, to address the conduct of students with disabilities that impedes the learning of students with disabilities and others;
 - c. Acquire and disseminate to teachers, administrators, school Board members, and related services personnel, significant knowledge derived from educational research and other sources and how the district will, if appropriate, adopt promising practices, materials and technology;
 - d. Ensure that the in-service training is integrated to the maximum extent possible with other professional development activities; and
 - e. Provide for joint training activities of parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and special education, related services and general education personnel. [34 C.F.R. §300.380]
14. Pupils with disabilities are included in statewide and district-wide assessment programs, with appropriate accommodations, where necessary.

This policy will be submitted to the County Office of Education for approval as required in N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.2(b) and the district will submit a written assurance of compliance with one through fourteen above as required in N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.2(c).

N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1 et seq.
20 USC 1400 et seq.
34 C.F.R. 300 et seq.

Date: Adopted: 6/27/00

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Second Reading and Final Adoption – May 24, 2005

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