

Private Service Providers Working with Students

1. Private Service Provider means a person, group, agency, or organization that meets the following two conditions:
 - a. Is not an employee of Lakeland Joint School District 272 or a public agency with legal jurisdiction over the circumstances related to their involvement with the student, and
 - b. Is paid/reimbursed for services provided to the student.

Examples of Private Service Providers are Nurses, Assistive Technology Consultants, Orientation and Mobility Specialists, Physicians, Optometrists, Psychologists, Counselors, Targeted Service Coordinators, Behavioral Therapists, Developmental Disabilities Specialists, Speech Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Social Workers, Psycho-Social Rehabilitation Specialists, Educational Consultants, etc.

2. Private Service Providers may do the following in Lakeland School district when the student has or is suspected of having a disability:
 - a. Refer a student to a school's pre-referral team for consideration for evaluation to determine eligibility for special education (IDEA/504).
 - b. Submit evaluation reports to a school IEP/504 team for consideration related to the referral or an evaluation being conducted by the evaluation team.
 - c. Be invited to an IEP/504 team meeting by either the school or parent.
 - I. The determination of eligibility for special education and the provision of a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) are the responsibility of the IEP/504 team and cannot be prescribed by any other entity.
 - II. All educational decisions regarding educational methodology, materials, and personnel are the responsibility of the school district.
 - d. Provide services in the schools to students under the terms of a contract with the school district.
 - I. Contracts are established when the school district is paying for services and should describe services, the role and responsibilities of the Private Service Provider with IEP/504 team or school administration, and the frequency and duration of service; include documentation of licensure/certification to perform prescribed services; address issues related to liability and terms for payment;

and state the provisions for changes or termination of the contract.

- II. Contracted services to a student with a disability shall be included in the student's IEP/504 Plan.
- e. Provide services to students on school grounds under the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding with the school district.
 - i. Memorandums of Understanding are established when the school district is not paying for the services but agrees that the services are needed in the school for the benefit of the student's progress in the general curriculum. The Memorandum of Understanding shall describe the specific services provided; the responsibilities of the school and the private provider; the provisions for space, time, equipment, and materials provided by the school district; and that the school district may terminate the Memorandum of Understanding at any time.
 - ii. Services provided under a Memorandum of Understanding to the student with a disability shall not be included on the student's IEP/504 Plan.
 - iii. The district has no obligation to enter into a contract or Memorandum of Understanding with a private service provider or to allow a private service provider access to school district property, space, materials, or equipment.
 3. School district records are only accessible to a Private Service Provider under contract with the school district or with written consent of the student's parent or guardian, or the student, if 18 years old or older. Requests for records may be subject to a fee to cover costs of copying and mailing.
 4. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit or impinge in any way on services parents may acquire for their child that are not provided at the school. Issues related to the amount of time students are removed from school for any purpose fall under the terms of other school district policies and guidelines.

Adopted on: June 9, 2008

Revised on: