

Basis for Obtaining an Independent Evaluation at Public Expense

Definition: An independent educational evaluation means an evaluation conducted by a qualified evaluator who is not employed by the public agency responsible for the student in question. (511 IAC 7-40-7)

Parents may request that an independent evaluation at public expense be conducted if they disagree with the evaluation conducted by the Greater Lafayette Area Special Services. Parents are to submit a written request to the Assistant Director of Special Education. When a referral for an independent evaluation is received GLASS will take one of the following two actions within ten business days: initiate a due process hearing to show the evaluation completed by GLASS is appropriate; or notify the parent in writing that the evaluation will be at public expense.

If all or any part of an independent evaluation is paid for by the public agency, the criteria under which the evaluation is obtained must be the same that the public agency uses when it initiates an evaluation to the extent those criteria are consistent with the parent's right to an independent educational evaluation, including the following:

- (1) Location of the evaluation: Within the state of Indiana.
- (2) Qualification of the evaluator:
 - a. Consistent with the minimal qualifications required by the Indiana Department of Education for school personnel who do the same type of evaluations such as (but not limited to):

School Psychologists
Special Education Teachers
Speech and Language Pathologists
Occupational Therapists
Physical Therapists
 - b. Knowledge of Indiana Article 7 and guidelines for special education eligibility.
- (3) As with any school evaluations, the purpose of any independent evaluation is for educational purposes.

Board Adopted: March 11, 2002