

### LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT

Students with disabilities, including those in public or private residential institutions and other care facilities located in the attendance area of the school corporation, shall be educated and participate in academic, nonacademic, and extracurricular activities with nondisabled students to the maximum extent appropriate. The case conference committee shall meet annually to develop the Individual Education Program (IEP) and determine on an individual basis the appropriate Least Restrictive Environment for each student. The case conference committee shall also take into consideration any potential harmful effect of a recommended placement on the student or on the quality of the services needed.

Unless the IEP requires some other arrangement, a student with a disability shall be educated with the student's chronological peers in the school the student would attend if not disabled. Placement in special classes or separate facilities shall occur only when it is documented by the case conference committee that education in general education classes with use of supplementary aids and services cannot be satisfactorily achieved. If necessary, a continuum of alternative educational placements shall be available to meet the individual needs of students with disabilities.

Legal References:    20 U.S.C. 1412(5)(B)  
                              34 CFR 300.227  
                              34 CFR 300.305-300.307  
                              34 CFR 300.550-300.556  
                              IC 20-35-2  
                              IC 20-35-2-1  
                              511 IAC 7-12-2  
                              511 IAC 7-42-10

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