

### **Special Education Evaluations for Home-Schooled or Non-Public School Students**

In response to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004) Minnesota school districts must demonstrate that “all children with disabilities, including children with disabilities attending private schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities, and who are in need of special education and related services, are identified, located, and evaluated.” This responsibility extends to children with disabilities who are educated at home or in non-public schools.

Upon request, your local public school will provide information to parents about specific disabilities including information about the educational or behavioral characteristics of each disability. Parents who suspect their child may have a disability may request information about how to refer the child for an evaluation by the school district’s special education staff. The evaluation will be designed to determine whether the child has a disability as defined by special education eligibility criteria in Minnesota Rule (Minn. Rule 3525.2710)

Parents of students who are evaluated and are found to be eligible for special education services will become part of a team, which will develop, implement, and monitor the effectiveness of an educational plan to meet the identified needs of the child. The district will offer Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) and a plan of services that meets the student’s educational needs and will stand ready to provide FAPE should parents choose to reject services.

If you have questions or would like to receive information about specific disabilities, evaluations, or other related questions, please contact the principal of the school building your child would be attending if he/she was enrolled in a public school. Your school district is committed to achievement for all learners.