

Your Rights Under Section 504

You have the right to be informed by the school district about their rights under Section 504. This is a statement of your rights and your child's rights under this section.

WHAT IS SECTION 504?

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Rehabilitation Act), commonly known as "Section 504" is a federal law that protects students from discrimination based on disability. Section 504 ensures that students with disabilities have the same opportunities and benefits. To be eligible, a student must have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major activities of life.

YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION

You have the right to:

- Receive a free appropriate public education.
- Have the OASD advise you of your rights under federal law.
- Participate in and benefit from educational programs without discrimination.
- Receive the same opportunities to participate in non-academic and extracurricular activities.
- Be educated with students without disabilities to the maximum extent possible.
- Be educated in facilities and receive services that are comparable to those received by students without disabilities.
- Receive care and/or assistance and related services so your child can have the same opportunity to participate in school activities.
- Receive school aide and other related services free of charge, with the exception of those who are charged for children without disabilities.
- Receive special education services if necessary.

YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL RECORD

You have the right to:

- Request your child's school records and receive copies at a reasonable cost. It will be free if you are prevented from seeing the records.
- Request the district to change your child's record if you think you are wrong.
- Receive and reasonable response to your request for explanation and interpretation of your child's records.

THE SECTION 504 PROCESS

Your child has the right to an evaluation before the school determines if he or she is eligible under Section 504. You have the right to:

- Be notified before the district takes any action regarding the identification, evaluation or placement of your child.
- The "Team 504" which includes people who know your child and know the meaning of the evaluation information and

placement options available to determine if a 504 is recommended.

- Making decisions based on assessing various sources, for example, aptitude and achievement tests, teacher recommendations, physical condition, medical history and observations of parents.
- Reject the consent of the initial evaluation and initial placement of your child.

If your child is eligible under Section 504, your child is entitled to periodic evaluations, including re-evaluations before a significant change is made in the placement of your child.

IF YOU DO NOT AGREE WITH THE DECISION OF THE DISTRICT

If you disagree with the district's decisions with respect to the identification, evaluation, educational programs placement of your child under Section 504, you must request mediation or an impartial hearing to follow due process. You and your child are entitled to be represented by a lawyer. You may send requests for hearings and other concerns to the Section 504 Coordinator in the Oxford Area School District:

Carole L. Clancy, Director of Special Education
125 Bell Tower Lane
Oxford, PA 19363
610-932-3072 – cclancy@oxford.k12.pa.us

You have the right to file a discrimination complaint with the Office for Civil Rights of the Department of Education EE. UU. (U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights - OCR) or to file a lawsuit in federal court. Generally, a complaint to the OCR can be performed within 180 calendar days of the occurrence of the event that you consider discriminatory. The regional office is located at 915 Second Ave, Room 3310, Seattle, WA 98174-1099.

Telephone: 206-607-1600/TDD: 206-607-1647

Website: www.ed.gov/OCR.