

Disproportionality and Over- Identification of Students in Special Education

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Marin County SELPA
Disproportionality and Over-Identification of Students in Special Education

The Marin County SELPA through its member LEAs is committed to being a SELPA in which all students, staff and community respect cultural, racial and economic diversity and all students are recognized and supported for their individuality and culture. The SELPA recognizes that the overrepresentation of students in special education and in the disciplinary system is a nationwide problem and that multiple factors contribute to disparities in academic achievement, socio-emotional adjustment and behavior between student subgroups. The causes of disproportionality are complex and cross many social systems and the SELPA recognizes that inappropriate identification and placement of students in special education can have long-term harmful effects. The SELPA is committed to examining the root causes of disproportionality to ensure that race, ethnicity, gender, language, and/or socio-economic status are not predictors of which students will be referred for special education services or to the disciplinary system and partnering with community agencies to correct these persistent patterns.