

INSTRUCTION

Special Education Services for Private/Home School Students

Private School Students

The right of parentally-placed private school children with disabilities is not the same as those of children with disabilities who are enrolled in public schools and are served at public agency programs or public agency placements at private schools.

It is the district's obligation to locate, identify, assess, and make FAPE available to disabled students whose parents/guardians choose to enroll them in private schools. Central Unified School District will reflect the following procedures:

Child Find

Activities are conducted by Central Unified to locate, identify, and evaluate all students who are suspected of having disabilities under IDEA, so that a free appropriate public education (FAPE) can be made available to all eligible children.

Access by Students and Provisions of Procedural Safeguards

Parents/guardians will be supplied with a copy of Parent Rights. Parent/guardian shall receive a written notice of their rights, including the right to a due process hearing for any dispute related to child find or assessment.

Assessment to Determine Eligibility

Evaluations must be conducted within 50 days of receipt of signed Assessment Plan, the parents/guardians must give their informed consent to conduct the evaluation. Evaluation materials must be selected and administered so as not to be discriminatory on a racial or cultural basis, and must be provided in the child's native language. A reevaluation must be conducted at least once every three years with parents/guardians informed consent.

Offer of FAPE if Attending a Public School

If a determination is made that the child needs special educational and related services, an offer of FAPE is made. If the parents/guardian elects to place the child in a public school, an IEP will be developed. If it is clear that the child will remain in their current placement, an ISP will be developed.

An Individual Service Plan (ISP) Based on a Consultative Model will be developed.

The term "service plan" has been adopted for use with parentally placed children in private schools, in lieu of "IEP." Each private school child with a disability who has been designated to

receive services “must have a services plan that describes the special education and related services that the LEA will provide to the child.”

Provide an Annual Notice to Include the Following:

- Willingness to provide FAPE upon enrollment at a public school
- Procedural Safeguards
- Continuation of ISP with contact information

Provide a new ISP only when and if services are changed. The school district will use a proportionate amount of federal funds to provide consultation services to private/home school students. The amount will be calculated by the following formula:

$$\frac{(\text{Federal funds}) (\text{Number of private IDEA students})}{(\text{Total Number of IDEA students in District})}$$

HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS

The IDEA provisions regarding students with disabilities in private schools do not apply to home-schooled students.

Child Find and Referral

Districts are required to identify, locate and evaluate children with disabilities within their district. 20 U.S.C. § 1412(a)(3)(A) (child find obligations). If, however, parents choose to home-school their children, rather than enroll them in a public school, federal law does not require that the school districts provide special education services to those children.

Parent referral: Parents wishing to refer their home-schooled child for evaluation must do so in writing. The District will determine if an assessment is appropriate and contact the parents.

Referral Documentation & Assessment Coordination

District Office Staff will maintain a logbook to document all written referrals and contacts. If an assessment is deemed appropriate, District Special Education staff will coordinate scheduling of the testing of the home-schooled student with District Testing Staff. An Assessment Plan will be developed within 15 days from the date of referral. This form must be completed by District Staff and forwarded to appropriate District personnel involved in testing.

Assessment of Home-Schooled Students

Test Administration: Qualified District personnel (Psychologists, Speech Therapists, RSP Teachers, Nurse, etc.) may conduct cognitive, academic, speech, health and other appropriate assessments as needed.

Testing Location: Testing of home-schooled children will in most cases be conducted at the K-12 school site of attendance.

Parent Notification: Written notice regarding assessment details will be provided to the parents of the home-schooled student by the District Special Education staff. This notice will require the parent to provide written permission for student assessment by signing the IEP Assessment Plan Form.

Timely Assessment: Assessments must be completed within 50 days from the date of the parent signature on the Assessment Plan unless an extension is obtained by the District.

IEP Meeting

An IEP Team will be assembled to determine whether the home-schooled child is eligible for services based upon his/her need and the State's Criteria for Eligibility. The parent of the home-schooled student will be part of the IEP team.

Classroom Placement/Program Options

Central Unified School District makes available a continuum of educational programs for students with special needs.

Parent Acceptance of Special Education Services: In order to utilize Central Unified School District Special Education Services it will be necessary for the parent to enroll the home-schooled student at a District school site that is appropriate and available for the services required. Once enrolled and attending public school the student will receive services as documented in his/her IEP.

Parent Declines Enrollment in the School District: The parent declining the District's offer to enroll the student at an appropriate school site for special education services will cause the special education process for the provision of services to come to an end. Copies of assessment reports will be available to the parent as appropriate.

Policy adopted: 7/23/02