INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL EVALUATIONS

The North Merrick Board of Education recognizes the right of parents or guardians of a student who has or is thought to have a disability to receive an independent evaluation at public expense if they disagree with the evaluation obtained by the Committee on Special Education (CSE) or the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE).

The independent evaluation shall be conducted by a qualified evaluator who is not employed by the school district responsible for the child's education. Upon request, parents will be provided with a list of public and private agencies and professional resources where independent evaluations may be obtained. These publicly-funded independent evaluations shall be limited to the same geographic and fiscal limitations as used by the district when it initiates an evaluation.

A parent is entitled to only one independent educational evaluation at public expense each time the school district conducts an evaluation with which the parent disagrees.

The district has the right to initiate an impartial hearing to demonstrate that its evaluation is appropriate. If the hearing officer determines that the district's evaluation was appropriate, a parent or guardian is not entitled to reimbursement at public expense.

The North Merrick Board of Education directs the Superintendent of Schools to develop regulations establishing maximum allowable fees for specific tests, the geographic area in which such evaluations may take place, and minimum qualifications of the professionals who administer and interpret various tests.

Ref: 20 USC Section 1415(d)(2)(A)
34 CFR Section 300.502
8 NYCRR Section 200.1(z); 200.5(a); 200.5(b); 200.5(c); 200.5(g)

NORTH MERRICK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

INDEPENDENT EVALUTION

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE COSTS/MINIMUM PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Evaluation Components	***NYS Certified Licensed Professionals***	***Evaluations***
Physical / Medical	School Physician	$ 300.00
Social History	Social Worker	250.00
Psychoeducational	Licensed Psychologist	2,000.00
Speech / Language	Licensed Speech Pathologist	1000.00
Physical Therapy	Licensed Physical Therapist	**375.00**
Occupational Therapy	Licensed Occupational Therapist	**375.00**
Education	Special Education Teacher School Psychologist	**650.00**
Audiological	Audiologist	**550.00**
Psychiatric	Physician w/a License in Clinical Psychiatry	**2,000.00**
Neuropsychological	Licensed Neuropsychologist	**7,000.00**
Comprehensive Evaluation (Autism)	Licensed Facility	**3,800.00**
Central Auditory Processing	Audiologist	**2500.00**
Assistive Technology	Licensed Speech Pathologist	**2,200.00**

Adopted/Revised: October 12, 2010
Adopted/Revised: August 14, 2018
Adopted/Revised: November 9, 2021
Adopted/Revised: August 19, 2025