

Services

The FNSBSD provides many special education services and supports, tailored to the needs of your child.

- Screenings and Evaluations
- Vision Services
- Deaf/Hard of Hearing Services
- Special Education Preschools
- Life Skills Classrooms
- Academic Support
- Assistive Technology
- Occupational, Physical and Speech Therapy
- Autism and Behavioral Support
- Sign Language Interpreters
- Vocational Training
- Emotional Support



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION,
PLEASE CONTACT THE SPECIAL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

**(907) 452-2000
x11489**

4th Floor, Suite E
520 5th Avenue,
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Office hours: 8:00AM-4:30PM

Web Resources:

FBSBSD Special Education:
k12northstar.org/departments/special-education

Alaska State Special Education:
<https://education.alaska.gov/sped>

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AND SUPPORT


FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR
BOROUGH SCHOOL
DISTRICT



Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

**Delivering specialized
instruction to students
with disabilities**

Last Updated November 2025



Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Serving Students Ages 3-22

What is Special Education?

Special Education is defined as instruction that is specifically designed to meet the unique needs of children with disabilities. The FNSBSD complies with federal law and state regulations in order to ensure that all children with disabilities receive a free appropriate public education.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a federal law that governs how states provide early intervention, special education and related services. The Alaska Administrative Code provides additional guidelines for districts to follow to ensure that the rights of children with disabilities are protected.

Special Education services are delivered to children in accordance with an **Individualized Education Program (IEP)**, a plan developed for each eligible child by a specialized team, including the child's parent or guardian.

Services can only be provided with parental/guardian consent.

Who is Eligible for Special Education?

As mandated in the IDEA, to be eligible for special education and related services a child must have a disability and must, because of the disability, require specially designed instruction. Eligibility is determined based on a full and individual evaluation. A specialized team, including the child's parent or guardian, reviews the evaluation results and determines whether the child has a disability and is in need of services.

Alaska regulations specify eligibility criteria for **14 disability categories**: cognitive impairment, specific learning disability, emotional disturbance, deafness, hearing impairment, deaf and blind, orthopedic impairment, visual impairment, speech or language impairment, other health impaired, multiple disabilities, early childhood developmental delay, autism, and traumatic brain injury.

If you have concerns about your preschool child...

- If your child struggles with age appropriate skills, you may want to consider a screening through Child Find.
- **Child Find** is offered for children aged 3-5 free of charge.
- A phone interview will determine if a screening is necessary.
- At the screening, your child's hearing and vision will be checked and they will be asked to complete age appropriate tasks. If necessary, further evaluation may be suggested
- Call (907) 452-2000 x11448 to inquire.

If you have concerns about your school-aged child...

- **Contact your child's teacher with any concerns.**
- Each building has a specialized team that can meet with you and plan the next steps for your child.
- Steps may include planning intervention strategies based on review of your child's classwork, assessment data and prior progress.
- Team meets periodically to review progress.
- A referral for a special education evaluation may be recommended if your student is not making progress with interventions.