

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENTS WITH EDUCATIONAL DISABILITIES

The school district actively seeks to identify students with possible educational disabilities as part of our responsibilities required by P. L. 94-142, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and the State of New Hampshire Standards for the Education of Students with Disabilities. Inherent in the nature of an educational disability is the inability to perform at the developmental or grade level expectancy without specialized materials, instruction or curricular modifications.

Upon receipt of a referral, an evaluation team that includes, a representative of the school district, the parents, the child's regular education teacher and a specialist in the area of the suspected disability, will meet to determine what, if any, assessments are needed to determine the existence of an educational disability. Once the team has decided upon testing, a battery of evaluations in the child's native language will be administered. The team will reconvene to determine:

- if there is enough evidence to support the eligibility of the child for special education and related services
- if further testing is necessary or
- if the child does not meet the eligibility criteria for special education.

Once the team has reached agreement regarding eligibility, an Individual Education Plan (IEP) will be developed. If the team cannot reach agreement, the parent or the school district may initiate a request for mediation or a due process hearing from the State Department of Education.

Legal References:

Public Law 94-142, *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 1100, *Standards for the Education of Students with Disabilities*

Policy ACE, *Procedural Safeguards*

Policy IHBAB, *Special Education Evaluations*

Adopted 2001

Reviewed 2017

