

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION AND RELATED SERVICES FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS**

### **Free Appropriate Public Education and Specially Designed Instruction**

It is the policy of the district to provide a free, appropriate, public education to all eligible students with disabilities, ages three through 21, in a manner consistent with State and federal law. The district shall apply to the State annually for funds pursuant to Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.

Special education programs for students eligible for special education shall be an integral part of the educational programs of this district, and shall be operated in compliance with federal and State requirements governing special education. Specially designed instruction and related services for an eligible student is identified in the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). The district is committed to providing special education programs and related services in the least restrictive environment, and to providing a continuum of placement options for qualifying students, based on the students' individual needs.

Not all students with disabilities are eligible for special education. The needs of disabled students who are not eligible for special education will be addressed individually. If a student qualifies, and as appropriate, the student will be provided accommodations and/or modifications required under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, in accordance with district policy and procedures (District Policy 2162).

### **Mediation or Resolution Sessions and Related Agreements**

The board grants the superintendent or a designee decision-making authority for the purpose of participating in and entering binding agreements in the course of resolution sessions pursuant to WAC 392-172A-05090 and/or mediations pursuant to WAC 392-172A-05060.

### **Graduation Ceremonies and Certificate of Attendance**

Generally, in order to participate in commencement exercises, students must have met the minimum criteria for graduation prior to the date of the exercise and otherwise be in good standing with their school through the commencement date. However, there are students eligible for special education, who have attended four years of high school, but whose IEPs prescribe the continuation of special education and related services beyond the fourth year of high school. Therefore, any such student who will continue to receive special education and related services between the ages of 18 and 21, shall be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony and activities, after four years of high school attendance, with his or her age-appropriate peers, and receive a certificate of attendance and continue to be eligible to receive special education and related services until they complete their credits for graduation.

The district superintendent shall develop and maintain special education procedures necessary to implement this policy. This policy and the procedures shall be available to the public.

Cross-References: Board Policy 2162

3300  
3323  
3600

Education of Students with Disabilities  
under Section 504  
Corrective Actions or Punishment  
Long-term Suspensions  
Student Records

Legal References:

Chapter 28A.155 RCW  
Chapter 49.60 RCW

Chapter 392-172A WAC

20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.

42 U.S.C. 12131-12133  
28 CFR Part 35

34 CFR Part 99

29 U.S.C. 794

34 CFR Part 104

34 CFR Part 300

34 CFR Part 303

Special Education  
Law against Discrimination

Rules for the Provision of Special  
Education

Individuals with Disabilities Education  
Improvement Act of 2004

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990  
Nondiscrimination on the Basis of  
Disability in State and Local  
Government Services

Family Education Rights and Privacy  
Act (FERPA)

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of  
1973, as amended by the  
Rehabilitation Act Amendments of  
1974, Pub. L. 93-516, 29 U.S.C. 794

Nondiscrimination on the basis of  
handicap in programs and activities  
receiving or benefiting from federal  
financial assistance

Assistance to States for the Education of  
Children With Disabilities and  
Preschool Grants for Children With  
Disabilities

Early Intervention Program for Infants  
and Toddlers with Disabilities

Management Resources:

*Policy News*, December 1999

*Policy News*, June 2007

*Policy News*, December 2007

Rule Adoption Leads to Special Education  
Policy

Graduation Ceremonies for Special  
Education Students

Updated Special Education Policy and  
Procedure