

INSTRUCTION

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The District shall provide a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the District, as required under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA") and implementing provisions of the Illinois School Code, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans With Disabilities Act.

It is the intent of the District to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, yet not require services pursuant to the IDEA.

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the District shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in the Illinois State Board of Education's Rules and Regulations to Govern the Administration of Special Education. For those students who are not eligible for services under IDEA, but, because of disability as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, need or are believed to need special instruction or related services, the District shall establish and implement a system of procedural safeguards. The safeguards shall cover students' identification, evaluation, and educational placement. This system shall include notice, an opportunity for the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to examine relevant records, an impartial hearing with opportunity for participation by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), and representation by counsel, and a review procedure.

The District may maintain membership in one or more cooperative associations of school districts, including the Cooperative Association for Special Education, which shall assist the School District in fulfilling its obligations to the District's disabled students. If determined appropriate, students may also be placed in private school education facilities.

LEGAL REF.: Illinois School Code, Sec. 14-1.01, *et seq.*, 14-7.02, and 14-7.02a (105 ILCS 5/14-1.01, 5/14-7.02, and 5/14-7.02a); and
23 Ill. Admin. Code Part 226.

CROSS REF.: 255 and 715.07

Adopted: May 12, 1983
Revised: November 4, 1999
Revised: March 26, 2009