

Greater Albany SD 8J
Board Policy

Code: **IGBAH**
Adopted: 2/25/08
Readopted: 5/11/09

Special Education - Evaluation Procedures

Consistent with its child find and parent or guardian¹ consent obligations, the district responds promptly to requests initiated by a parent or guardian or public agency for an initial evaluation to determine if a child is a child with a disability.

A full and individual evaluation of a student's educational needs that meets the criteria established in the Oregon Administrative Rules will be conducted before determining eligibility and before the initial provision of special education and related services to a student with a disability. The district implements an ongoing system to locate, identify and evaluate all children birth to 21 residing within its jurisdiction who have disabilities and need early intervention, early childhood special education or special education services.

The district identifies all children with disabilities, regardless of the severity of their disabilities, including children who are:

1. Highly mobile, such as migrant and homeless children;
2. Wards of the state.
3. Indian preschool children living on reservations;
4. Suspected of having a disability even though they advance from grade to grade.
5. Home schooled;
6. Attending private (religious or secular) school located within the boundaries of the district;
7. Attending a district charter school.
8. Below the age of compulsory school attendance; or
9. Above the age of compulsory school attendance who have not graduated from high school with a regular diploma and have not completed the school year in which they reach their 21st birthday.

¹As used in this document, the term parent includes legal guardian or person in a parental relationship. The status and duties of a legal guardian are defined in ORS 125.005(4) and 125.300 - 125.325. The determination of whether an individual is acting in a parental relationship, for purposes of determining residency, depends on the evaluation of the factors listed in ORS 419B.373. The determination for other purposes depends on evaluation of those factors and a power of attorney executed pursuant to ORS 109.056. For special education students, parent also includes a surrogate parent, an adult student to whom rights have transferred and foster parent as defined in OAR 581-015.0005(18).

The district is responsible for evaluating and determining eligibility for special education services for school age children. The district is responsible for evaluating children who may be eligible for Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) services. The district's designated referral and evaluation agency is responsible for determining eligibility.

Before conducting any evaluation or reevaluation, the district:

1. Plans the evaluation with a group that includes the parent(s) or guardian(s);
2. Provides prior written notice to the parent or guardian that describes any proposed evaluation procedures that agency proposes to conduct as a result of the evaluation planning process; and
3. Obtains informed written consent for evaluation.

The district conducts a comprehensive evaluation or reevaluation before:

1. Determining that a child has a disability;
2. Determining that a child continues to have a disability;
3. Changing the child's eligibility;
4. Providing special education and related services;
5. Terminating the child's eligibility for special education, unless the termination is due to graduation from high school with a regular diploma or exceeding the age of eligibility for a free appropriate public education.

Upon completion of the evaluation, the district provides the parent or guardian or eligible child a copy of the evaluation report at no cost. The evaluation report describes and explains the results of the evaluation. Upon completion of the eligibility determination, the district provides the parent or guardian or eligible child documentation of eligibility determination at no cost.

The district ensures that assessments and other evaluation materials, including those tailored to assess specific areas of education need, used to assess a child:

1. Are selected and administered so as not to be racially or culturally discriminatory;
2. Are provided and administered in the child's native language or other mode of communication and form most likely to yield accurate information on what the child knows and can do academically, developmentally, and functionally unless it is clearly not feasible to do so;
3. Are used for purposes for which assessments or measures are valid and reliable;
4. Are administered by trained and knowledgeable personnel; and
5. Are administered in accordance with any instructions provided by the producer of such assessments.

Materials and procedures used to assess a child with limited English proficiency are selected and administered to ensure that they measure the extent to which the child has a disability and needs special education, rather than measuring the child's English language skills.

A student must meet the eligibility criteria in the Oregon Administrative rules.

The district conducts reevaluations:

1. When the educational or related services needs, including improved academic achievement and functional performance of the children warrant a reevaluation.
2. When the child's parents or guardian or teacher requests a reevaluation; and
3. At least every three years, unless the parent or guardian and the district agree that a reevaluation is unnecessary.

The district does not conduct reevaluation more than once a year, unless the parent or guardian and district agree otherwise.

If a parent or guardian has previously revoked consent for special education and related services and subsequently requests special education and related services, the district will conduct an initial evaluation of the student to determine eligibility for special education.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 343.155](#)

[ORS 343.157](#)

[ORS 343.164](#)

[OAR 581-015-2000](#)

[OAR 581-015-2095](#)

[OAR 581-015-2105 to-2190](#)

Assistance to States for the Education of Children with Disabilities, 34 C.F.R. §§ 300.7, 300.530 - 300.534, 300.540 - 300.543 (2006).

Assistance to States for the Education of Children with Disabilities, 34 C.F.R. §§ 300.300 (2008).

Cross Reference(s):

IGBA - Students with Disabilities

IGBAJ - Special Education - Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)

IGBAK - Special Education - Public Availability of State Applications