

THE MISSION OF SDA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

We provide a safe, secure environment in which every student will acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to become accomplished, productive member of the ever-changing, global community.

We believe: Education is a life-long learning process We believe: In treating all people with dignity and respect We believe: In promoting and developing positive character traits

We believe: In developing positive self-esteem in all students
We believe: In sharing responsibility for education with the community, family, and students

WRITTEN PROCEDURES FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM AT SDA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OVERVIEW

https://www.education.ne.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Clean51_2022.pdf https://www.education.ne.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Rule52_2014.pdf

The following procedures are a general guide for District staff, students, and parents. Nothing in these procedures are binding on the District or create any contract or property right. These procedures do not override Board Policy. To the extent that anything in these procedures is contrary to state or federal law, such procedures shall be disregarded. In addition, the District will typically incorporate other practices and procedures (that may or may not be in writing elsewhere) to supplement, modify, or preempt the procedures listed in this document. Any person who has a question about the District's special education procedures or practices should contact a District administrator with their specific question(s). Finally, the District's administrative team may supplement, revise, remove, or rewrite any or all of these procedures at any time, so any person wishing to review the applicable procedures should check with the Director of Special Education to obtain an updated copy.

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CHILD FIND

The District will develop procedures to ensure all children within the district have access to the child find process The district will provide multiple methods to provide parents, guardians, and community members with information regarding how to refer a child for an evaluation and the identification process Each school building will have a designated contact person who is knowledgeable about the district procedures, and the district will designate a contact person to oversee the child find process The child find process will be consistent with Federal and state regulations (i e , 34 CFR § 300 111 and 300 131; 92 NAC 51-006 and 92 NAC 51-015 03)

CHILD FIND

Non-School Age (Ages 0-5)

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
Send publications out Examples could be news paper, daycares, posters, medical clinic, website, churches, preschools, newsletter Send publications out Examples could be news paper, daycares, posters, medical clinic, website, churches, preschools, newsletter	 Superintendent Superintendent Secretary Special Education Director 	Annually	Brochure/ handout https://edn.ne.gov/cms/ https://childfind.nebraska.gov/ https://edn.ne.gov/cms/sites/default/files/u1/broc hures/EI-PAM-2 0.pdf https://edn.ne.gov/cms/sites/default/files/u1/broc hures/64896%20EARLY%20DEV%20BROCH.pdf https://edn.ne.gov/cms/sites/default/files/u1/broc hures/Babies Cant Wait May 2015.pdf https://edn.ne.gov/cms/sites/default/files/u26/ED N-Family-Resource-Guide-508%20Accessible-for%2 ONDE_English_Final.pdf https://edn.ne.gov/cms/sites/default/files/u1/broc hures/bookmark8.5x3.5-final.pdf https://edn.ne.gov/cms/sites/default/files/u1/broc hures/bookmark8.5x3.5-final.pdf https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/pdf/FULL- LIST-CDC_LTSAE-Checklists2021_Eng_ENL2_508.pdf https://edn.ne.gov/cms/who-is-eligible https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1JSpig ER0tVJaXul0md-56YFxsNuSvWom
Professional development on Child Find and related issues for staff	 Special Education Director School Psychologist Building Principal Counselor 	Annually	

The district will accept referrals from parents and outside agencies	 Special Education Director Speech Language Pathologist 	On an ongoing basis	Child Find forms to identified parents
	T difference gion		

CHILD FIND

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
Send publications out • Examples could be news paper, daycares, posters, medical clinic, website, churches, preschools, newsletter	 Superintendent Superintendent Secretary Special Education Director 	Annually	Brochure/ handout https://childfind.nebraska.gov/ https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/pdf/FULL -LIST-CDC_LTSAE-Checklists2021_Eng_FNL2_508.pd f https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1JSpig ER0tVJaXul0md-56YFxsNuSvWom
Professional development for staff Onboarding Annual refreshers	 Special Education Director School Psychologist Building Principal Counselor Speech-Language Pathologist 	On an ongoing basis	
Identify students of concern	 General education teachers PST teams (could include school psychologist, counselor, interventionist, principal) 	On an ongoing basis	Problem Solving Team (PST) forms Speech-Language (PST) Form https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1JSpig ER0tVJaXul0md-56YFxsNuSvWom
Discuss concerns with parents and Problem SolvingTeam (PST), review applicable data.	PST teams (could include school psychologist,	On an ongoing basis	PST form

Examples might include: MAP NSCAS Acadience Grades Attendance Behavior Data ASA ACT	counselor, interventionist, principal)		
Develop and document evidence-based interventions and progress	• PST	On an ongoing basis	PST form PST flow chart
Meet to discuss: Progress (data) Potential alterations to plan Potential referral for sped eval	• PST	On an ongoing basis	PST form
Transition meetings & tasks • Share PST documents	PSTBuilding Principals	End of Year, Annually	PST documents
Parent requests for evaluations, including students enrolled in public school or homeschool, will be granted a team meeting to determine if an evaluation is warranted	 Special Education Director School Psychologist Building Principals Speech Language Pathologist 	On an ongoing basis	Either: District honors parent request for evaluation while interventions start or are continued OR A Prior Written Notice is provided to the parent explaining the district's reason for not conducting an evaluation

CONSENT (EVALUATION AND PLACEMENT)

District staff will provide the parent, guardian, or appointed surrogate (when applicable) with information regarding decisions to evaluate (what they are proposing or rejecting, reasons for decisions, all options considered, why other options were rejected, what information was used to make decisions, and any other relevant information). Staff will review evaluation assessment plans with parents and will seek written permission for evaluation on the district consent form which will provide state and federal requirements. Informed consent for special education placement will be obtained on the IEP form before services are initiated.

CONSENT (INITIAL EVALUATION AND PLACEMENT)

Non-School Age (Ages Birth-3)

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
Provide parent, guardian, or appointed surrogate with a copy of procedural safeguards at the time of consent	 Special Education Director 	On an ongoing basis	Procedural Safeguards Notice
Ensuring the information is accessible to a parent, guardian, or appointed surrogate who is not a native English speaker	 Special Education Director 	On an ongoing basis	Consent forms
Coordinating consent issues for students who are in private school or home school	Special Education Director	On an ongoing basis	Consent forms

CONSENT (EVALUATION AND PLACEMENT)

Person Responsible PST/PAREN School Psychologist Speech Language Pathologist Special Education Director	When to Complete TT REFERRAL Within a reasonable amount of time following PST meeting/referral	Forms Needed (if any) Notice and Consent for Initial Evaluation
 School Psychologist Speech Language Pathologist Special Education 	Within a reasonable amount of time following	Notice and Consent for Initial Evaluation
Speech LanguagePathologistSpecial Education	amount of time following	Notice and Consent for Initial Evaluation
 School Psychologist Speech Language Pathologist Special Education Director 	Within a reasonable amount of time following PST meeting/referral	Procedural Safeguards Notice
Director	Within a reasonable amount of time following PST meeting/referral	 Notice and Consent for Initial Evaluation Procedural Safeguards Notice
Principal	Follow the district's procedures for mediation and due process	
RE-EVA	LUATION	
School Psychologist		Notice and Consent for Reevaluation
	Director School Psychologist Speech Language Pathologist Special Education Director Principal (if needed) Special Education Director Superintendent Principal RE-EVA School Psychologist	School Psychologist Speech Language Pathologist Special Education Director Principal (if needed) Special Education Director Principal (if needed) Follow the district's procedures for mediation and due process RE-EVALUATION

guardian, or appointed surrogate.			
Provide parent, guardian, or appointed surrogate with a copy of procedural safeguards (in their native language) at the time of consent.	 Special Education Case Manager Speech Language Pathologist School Psychologist 		Procedural Safeguards Notice
If the parent, guardian, or appointed surrogate is nonresponsive, a minimum of three attempts to provide procedural safeguards and consent for reevaluation form will be made and documented. Methods of contact can include phone, email, certified mail, and residential visits.	 Special Education Case Manager Speech Language Pathologist School Psychologist Special Education Director 	Within a reasonable amount of time following first contact attempt to provide parent with Consent and Procedural Safeguards Notice	Documentation of contact attempts
If the parent, guardian, or appointed surrogate is nonresponsive and a minimum of three attempts to provide procedural safeguards and consent for re-evaluation has been made and documented, the district may proceed with re-evaluation to determine eligibility. Methods of contact can include phone, email, certified mail, and residential visits.	 Special Education Case Manager Speech Language Pathologist 	After three contact attempts have been made from first contact attempt to provide parent with Consent and Procedural Safeguards Notice	Documentation of contact attempts
If the parent, guardian, or appointed surrogate does not consent to the evaluation, the school district may utilize the procedural safeguards including mediation or due process in order to proceed with evaluation to determine eligibility.	 Special Education Director Superintendent Principal 	Follow the district's procedures for mediation and due process	

EVALUATION

When a child is suspected of having a disability, the District will complete a comprehensive initial evaluation within 45 school days or 60 calendar days (whichever comes first) from the date of parental consent to determine eligibility for special education services All evaluations (both initial evaluations and reevaluations) will be completed by multidisciplinary qualified professionals and will follow Federal and state regulations. The documented results of the evaluation will be provided to parents and included in student files. The district will purchase a variety of assessment instruments to ensure district teams have access to appropriate measures to complete evaluations. The district will follow publisher guidelines for assessments (professional qualifications, use of materials, interpretations) and will not use outdated or culturally inappropriate tools. The district will identify procedures to audit a sampling of evaluations to ensure regulations are followed All evaluation components will be at district expense.

EVALUATION

Ages 0-3

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)			
	CHILD FIND					
Contact parents and send consent form and Parent's Rights in Special Education	 Special Education Director School Psychologist Speech Pathologist 	Within a reasonable time after receiving request	 Notice and Consent for Initial Evaluation Form or Notice and Consent for Reevaluation (if already identified in another eligibility area) IDEA Part C Parents' Rights in Special Education (Age 0-3): Procedural 			
Complete evaluation	Qualified individuals in areas of concern	60 calendar days	Evaluation information			
Schedule MDT meeting	Special education case					
Send meeting notice	managerSchool psychologistSpeech pathologist					
Step 1: IF parent does not respond to the meeting notice: • document that 3 possible meeting dates were sent • attempt contact 3 times, note the method, date, and time that they	 Special education case manager School psychologist Speech pathologist 					

were contacted and then hold meeting Step 2: IF parent agrees to attend the meeting but does not show up to the meeting: • Attempt to contact parent to reschedule if time allows within 60 day timeline or meeting will be held without parent			
Hold MDT meeting	 Required MDT Members If the parents' native language is not spoken English, an interpreter will be provided 		
Send Finalized copy of MDT report	 Special education case manager School psychologist Speech pathologist 	Within a reasonable time after MDT meeting	MDT report
	PARENT RI	EFERRAL	
Upon parent request for evaluation, Special Education Director reviews referral information and data	Special Education Director	Within a reasonable time after receiving request	Information may include: Intervention and Progress Monitoring Data (if applicable) Academic, Behavior, Attendance Data
Special Education Director examines concern, reviews data/progress, and determines next steps.	 Special Education Director Qualified individuals in areas of concern 		Either: District honors parent request for evaluation while interventions start or are continued OR A Prior Written Notice is provided to the parent explaining the district's reason for not conducting an evaluation

IF district honors parent request, contact parents and send consent form and parental rights	 Special Education Director Qualified individuals in areas of concern 	Within a reasonable time after receiving request	 Notice and Consent for Initial Evaluation Form or Notice and Consent for Reevaluation (if already identified in another eligibility area) IDEA Part C Parents' Rights in Special Education (Age 0-3): Procedural Safeguards Notice
IF district honors parent request, complete evaluation	Qualified individuals in areas of concern	60 calendar days	Assessments
Schedule MDT Meeting	Special education case		
Send Notice of Meeting	manager		Notice of Meeting
Step 1: IF parent does not respond to the meeting notice: • document that 3 possible meeting dates were sent • attempt contact 3 times, note the method, date, and time that they were contacted and then hold meeting Step 2: IF parent agrees to attend the meeting but does not show up to the meeting: • Attempt to contact parent to reschedule if time allows within 60 day timeline or meeting will be held without parent	 Special education case manager School psychologist Speech pathologist 		Notice of Meeting
Hold MDT meeting	 Required MDT Members If the parents' native language is not spoken English, an interpreter will be provided 		
Send Finalized copy of MDT report	Special education case managerSchool psychologist	Within a reasonable time after MDT meeting	MDT Report

 Speech pathologist 	

EVALUATION

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)			
PST REFERRAL						
PST makes referral to Special Education Director	• PST	Within a reasonable time after receiving referral	PST information, examples might include: • Health Information • Intervention and Progress Monitoring Data • Academic, Behavior, Attendance Data • State/District Assessment Data • Identified Areas of Concern to Assess (e.g., Motor, Cognitive, Behavior, Academic, Speech-Language)			
Review PST referral, create student profile in SRS	 Special Education Director 		PST information			
Contact parents and send consent form and Parent's Rights in Special Education	School psychologistSpeech pathologist		 Notice and Consent for Initial Evaluation Form or Notice and Consent for Reevaluation (if already identified in another eligibility area) IDEA Part B Parents' Rights in Special Education (Age 3-21): Procedural 			
Complete evaluation	Qualified individuals in areas of concern	60 calendar days	Assessments			
Schedule MDT meeting	Special education case					
Send meeting notice	managerSchool psychologistSpeech pathologist		Notice of Meeting			
Step 1: IF parent does not respond to the meeting notice: • document that 3 possible meeting dates were sent • attempt contact 3 times, note the method, date, and time that they were contacted and then hold	 Special education case manager School psychologist Speech pathologist 		Notice of Meeting			

meeting Step 2: IF parent agrees to attend the meeting but does not show up to the meeting: • Attempt to contact parent to reschedule if time allows within 60 day timeline or meeting will be held without parent			
Hold MDT meeting	 Required MDT Members If the parents' native language is not spoken English, an interpreter will be provided 		
Send Finalized copy of MDT report	 Special education case manager School psychologist Speech pathologist 	Within a reasonable time after MDT meeting	MDT report
	PARENT R	EFERRAL	
Upon parent request for evaluation, Special Education Director reviews referral information and data	Special Education Director	Within a reasonable time after receiving request	Information may include: Intervention and Progress Monitoring Data (if applicable) Academic, Behavior, Attendance Data State/District Assessment Data Current classroom performance
PST team convenes to examine concern, review data/progress, and determine next steps. Either: • District honors parent request for evaluation while interventions start or are continued OR • A Prior Written Notice is provided to the parent explaining the district's reason for not conducting an evaluation	• PST		Either: District honors parent request for evaluation while interventions start or are continued OR A Prior Written Notice is provided to the parent explaining the district's reason for not conducting an evaluation

IF district honors parent request, review referral, create student record IF district honors parent request, contact parents and send consent form and parental rights	 Special Education Director Special Education Director Qualified individuals in areas of concern 	15 school days from PST meeting to parent contact	 Notice and Consent for Initial Evaluation Form or Notice and Consent for Reevaluation (if already identified in another eligibility area) IDEA Part B Parents' Rights in Special Education (Age 3-21): Procedural Safeguards Notice
IF district honors parent request, complete evaluation	Qualified individuals in areas of concern	60 calendar days	Assessments
Schedule MDT Meeting	Special education case		
Send Notice of Meeting	managerSchool psychologistSpeech pathologist		Notice of Meeting
Step 1: IF parent does not respond to the meeting notice: • document that 3 possible meeting dates were sent • attempt contact 3 times, note the method, date, and time that they were contacted and then hold meeting Step 2: IF parent agrees to attend the meeting but does not show up to the meeting: • Attempt to contact parent to reschedule if time allows within 60 day timeline or meeting will be held without parent	 Special education case manager School psychologist Speech pathologist 		Notice of Meeting
IF district honors parent request, hold MDT meeting	 Required MDT Members If the parents' native language is not spoken English, an interpreter will be provided 		

IF district honors parent request, send Finalized copy of MDT report	 Special education case manager School psychologist Speech pathologist 	Within a reasonable time after MDT meeting	MDT report
IF district denies parent request, PWN is provided to parent explaining the district's reason for not conducting an evaluation	 Special Education Director School psychologist Speech pathologist 	Sent to parent within a reasonable amount of time following the PST meeting	Prior Written Notice
	RE-EVAL	JATION	
Send consent	School psychologistSpeech pathologist	Prior to 3 years after most recent evaluation	Notice and Consent for Reevaluation
Complete evaluation	Qualified individuals in areas of concern		Assessments
Send Notice of Meeting	Special education case		Notice of Meeting
Step 1: IF parent does not respond to the meeting notice: • document that 3 possible meeting dates were sent • attempt contact 3 times, note the method, date, and time that they were contacted and then hold meeting Step 2: IF parent agrees to attend the meeting but does not show up to the meeting: • Attempt to contact parent to reschedule if time allows within 60 day timeline or meeting will be held without parent	manager		
Hold MDT meeting	 Required MDT Members If the parents' native language is not spoken English, an interpreter will be provided 		

Send Finalized copy of MDT report	 Special education case manager School psychologist Speech pathologist 	Within a reasonable time after MDT meeting	MDT report
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SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITIES

The District will collect students' reading, math, and writing performance data throughout the school year. School teams will make data-based decisions to determine who is in need of general education interventions. Interventions will include evidence-based practices. The students' progress will be monitored in the area of the deficit at least twice a month. School teams will review all collected data, and if it is suspected that a student has a specific learning disability, the student will be referred for an evaluation. The parent has a right to request an evaluation at any time. The district will develop procedures to ensure compliance with all Federal and state regulations concerning evaluations. District education and assessment staff receive ongoing training on such procedures and district-level policies.

<u>ADDITIONAL EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITY (SLD)</u>

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
General intervention decision-making process and team members	Building PrincipalsCounselorsSchool PsychologistInterventionists	On an as-needed basis	
Parent request for evaluations	Special EducationDirectorStaff	On an as-needed basis	Evaluation forms
Written evaluation results and signatures	School Psychologist	On an as-needed basis	MDT Report
Meeting planning (notice, facilitation, etc.)	Special Education Case ManagerSchool Psychologist	On an as-needed basis	Notice of Meeting, MDT meeting notes

INDEPENDENT EDUCATION EVALUATIONS

The parent, guardian, or appointed surrogate will be notified of procedural safeguards consistent with federal and state regulations (34 CFR § 300 502 and 92 NAC 51-006 07) associated with Individual Education Evaluations (IEEs) at the time of evaluation. When a parent, guardian, or appointed surrogate disagrees with the outcomes of an evaluation and requests an IEE, the District will respond to the request within a reasonable number of days with a decision to move forward with the IEE or initiate a hearing to determine the appropriateness of the evaluation (consistent with 92 NAC 51-006 07D). The parent, guardian, or appointed surrogate will be given written notice of the decision. The district will maintain procedures outlining criteria associated with the evaluation and provide information to the parent upon request. The school team will consider independent evaluations (whether provided at the parent or public expense) when making decisions.

INDEPENDENT EDUCATION EVALUATIONS

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
Handling requests for IEE	Special Education Director	On an as-needed basis	
Communicating options to parents regarding an IEE and IEE results	Special Education Director	On an as-needed basis	
Coordinating and arranging for an IEE	Special Education Director	On an as-needed basis	

REEVALUATION

All evaluations (initial evaluations and reevaluations) will be completed by multidisciplinary qualified professionals and will follow federal and state regulations. The documented results of the evaluation will be provided to parents and included in student files. The district will purchase a variety of assessment instruments to ensure district teams have access to appropriate measures to complete evaluations. The district will follow publisher guidelines for assessments (professional qualification, use of materials, interpretations) and will not use outdated tools. All past evaluations will be reviewed before making decisions regarding current evaluation or reevaluation needs.

REEVALUATION

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
Coordinating reevaluations	 Special Education Director School Psychologist Speech Pathologist 	On an as-needed basis	Reevaluation noticesConsent forms
Coordinating reevaluations for students who transfer into a school from within district, state or out of state.	 Special Education Director School Psychologist Speech Pathologist 	On an as-needed basis	Reevaluation noticesConsent forms
Communicating reevaluation needs to parents	School PsychologistSpeech Pathologist	On an as-needed basis	Reevaluation noticesConsent forms
Interpreting test results	School PsychologistSpeech Pathologist	On an as-needed basis	Test results
Notices and meeting documents	School PsychologistSpeech PathologistSpecial Education Case Manager	On an as-needed basis	Notice of MeetingMDT meeting notes

ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility for services will be determined by a multidisciplinary team based on the results of a comprehensive evaluation based on disability categories identified by state and federal regulations (34 CFR §300 8; 92 NAC 51-006 04). The team is responsible for ruling out the determinant factor is due to a lack of appropriate instruction in reading or math or due to lack of English proficiency. The team will prepare a written report documenting all evaluation findings in accordance with state and Federal requirements. The district will develop procedures determining who is responsible for providing the parent with a written report and the documentation of such actions. When a student is not eligible for services, the school multidisciplinary team will determine if general education interventions or strategies are needed.

ELIGIBILITY

School-Aged (Ages 5-21)

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
Reviewing, analyzing and communicating the results of the evaluation to the team, including the parent, guardian, or appointed surrogate	Special Education DirectorSchool Psychologist	On an ongoing basis	
Ensure that evaluations draw upon a variety of sources as outlined in federal and state regulations before decisions are made	Special Education DirectorSchool Psychologist	On an ongoing basis	
Ensure there is no disproportionality due to inappropriate identification	Special Education Director	On an ongoing basis	Review of data and comparators
Professional development for staff on disability verification and related issues	 Special Education Director 	On an ongoing basis	Online and/or in-person trainings
Ensuring all areas of a disability are included in evaluations before eligibility decisions are made	Special Education DirectorSchool Psychologist	On an ongoing basis	
Facilitating disagreement when not all members of the team agree with a decision	Special Education Director	Within a reasonable timeframe after the team makes its decision	

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES - NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HTTPS://WWW.EDUCATION.NE.GOV/SPED/ELIGIBILITY-GUIDELINES/

FREE AND APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION

The District will provide a free appropriate public education to children with disabilities eligible for special education services in accordance with state and federal regulations. An IEP outlines each student's individual education plan and will be reasonably designed to meet the unique educational needs of the student.

FREE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION (FAPE)

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)			
	FAPE WITHIN THE IEP					
Student strengths	IEP team members, may include: Parent Student General Education Teacher(s) Special Education Teacher Other Service Providers Individual to interpret evaluation results	At the IEP meeting	IEP			
Student input	• Student	At the IEP meeting	IEP			
Parental information	Parent/Guardian of student	At the IEP meeting	IEP			
Results of initial or recent evaluations Include MDT Due Date	Special Education Case Manager	At the IEP meeting	IEP			

State & District-wide Assessment Results	Special Education Case Manager	At the IEP meeting	IEP
IF behavior impedes learning Behavior needs are discussed and a behavior plan is developed if needed	IEP Team members	At the IEP meeting	IEP
IF student has limited English proficiency an impact statement is documented and a goal is created	IEP Team members	At the IEP meeting	IEP
IF student is blind or visually impaired • statement for Braille needs is established	IEP Team members	At the IEP meeting	IEP
IF the student has communication needs • statement is established	IEP Team members	At the IEP meeting	IEP
IF the student is deaf or hard of hearing Language or communication needs Opportunities for direct communication with peers in child's language and communication mode Need for assistive technology devices/services	IEP Team members	At the IEP meeting	IEP
Assistive Technology Devices/Services	IEP Team members	At the IEP meeting	IEP
The Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance will address: • how the child's disability affects involvement in general education in comparison to typically developing peers • most recent progress monitoring and evaluation data • address students' physical	 Special Education Case Manager General Education Teacher Other service providers 	At the IEP meeting	IEP

education needs and extra curricular access • transition statement if applicable o (14 years and older)			
Goals are individualized, reasonably measurable and based on current data • measurement procedure • Include date • Area of need • Level of attainment • Person responsible • Evaluation procedures Short term objectives must be included for students who receive alternative assessment.	IEP Team members	At the IEP meeting	• IEP
Service Statement of eligibility Identify services and duration Supplementary Aids of Services Modifications and Accommodations Supports for school personnel IEP at a Glance Percent of time with regular education students Medicaid in Public Schools Consent if student receives services from a specialized provider	IEP Team members	At the IEP meeting	• IEP
The following children with disabilities will be provided transportation: Children ages 5 or below (Pre-K or younger) Children who attend job sites Children who attend another facility Children whose nature and severity of disability (TBD by IEP team) impacts their transportation needs If the district does not have a means to provide transportation for the children listed above, mileage reimbursement will be	IEP Team members	Determined at the IEP meeting	 IEP/IFSP Route schedules Parent Reimbursement Claim Forms Mileage Claim Form.xlsx Rules for Safe Transportation of Students

offered.			
Alternate assessment will be determined by the IEP Team according to state criteria. Alternate assessments will be conducted to correspond with the timeline of state and district-wide assessment for each grade level.	IEP Team members	At the IEP meeting	IEP, IEP Team Decision Making Flowchart, Alternate Assessment Criteria Form, Most Significant Cognitive Disability Definition Form https://www.education.ne.gov/wp-content/upload s/2018/10/Document-4-IEP-Team-Decision-Making-F low-Chart-Alternate-Assessment.pdf https://www.education.ne.gov/wp-content/upload s/2017/08/Alternate Assessment Criteria.pdf
Assessment Participation in state and district wide assessments • Students who are not eligible for alternative assessment will participate in state and district-wide assessments with or without accommodations as determined by the IEP team.	IEP Team members	At the IEP meeting	• IEP
State and district wide assessment accommodations • testing accommodations must also be used in the child's program modifications & accommodations	IEP Team members	At the IEP meeting	• IEP
Extended School Year • To receive ESY services, the student must demonstrate significant regression during the summer months where specific instruction to support recoupment of skills would be necessary.	IEP Team members	At the IEP meeting	IEP Collect data before and after breaks to determine if a pattern of skill regression occurs and ESY is needed
Ensure FAPE reviews for transfer students (out of state and in state) and nonpublic students	Special Education Director		
When scheduling the IEP meeting, if the	Special Education Case	After three contact	Documentation of contact attempts

parent, guardian, or appointed surrogate is nonresponsive and a minimum of three attempts to provide procedural safeguards and schedule the IEP meeting, the district may proceed with the IEP meeting. Methods of contact can include phone, email, certified mail, and residential visits.	Manager • Speech Language Pathologist	attempts have been made from first contact attempt to provide parent with Procedural Safeguards Notice and to schedule the IEP meeting	
	GRADU School-Aged	JATION I (Ages 5-21)	
It is anticipated that all students with disabilities will receive a regular high school diploma upon completion of their graduation requirements. In limited circumstances, the IEP team may convene to discuss the student's educational programing until age 21. In these cases, the student will participate in graduation with their class and receive a certificate of attendance rather than a regular diploma. Upon the completion of the student's educational programming (up to age 21), they will receive a diploma.	 School Counselor Parents IEP Team members Special Education Director 	At the IEP meeting	IEP
	TRANSFER School-Aged	STUDENTS I (Ages 5-21)	
When a student transfers into the district with an active IEP from within the state the Special Education Director will gain access to and notify district personnel so that they can put the IEP in place.	 School Counselor Parents IEP Team members Special Education Director 	On an ongoing basis	IEPMDT
When a student transfers into the district with an IEP from out of state, the Special Education Director will obtain the most recent MDT/IEP from the student's previous district. The school psychologist and/or speech pathologist will review the MDT to	 School Counselor School Psychologist Speech Pathologist Parents IEP Team members Special Education 	On an ongoing basis	■ IEP■ MDT

determine if eligibility can be continued per Nebraska Rule 51 (34 CFR §300 8; 92 NAC 51-006 04). If further assessment is necessary to determine eligibility, the evaluation process will be initiated.	Director		
The team will follow the most recent IEP and hold a new IEP meeting to document any updates and service changes.	IEP Team members	Within a reasonable amount of time following enrollment at SDA	• IEP

TRANSITION FROM PART C TO PART B

The District will create procedures to ensure staff participates in transition planning with early intervention programs to ensure participating children are appropriately evaluated, identified, and have services in place by age 3 consistent with Federal regulations (34 CFR § 1 24, 34 CFR § 300 323) and state law (92 NAC 51-005 03).

TRANSITION FROM PART C TO PART B

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
Coordinating and communicate with early intervention programs associated with Part C to build district-level procedures	Special EducationDirectorESU 4 Personnel	On an ongoing basis	
Part C director (Special Education Director) will serve as the point of contact	Special Education Director	On an ongoing basis	Student Handbook and/or School Website
Attend meetings and facilitate discussions	IEP team membersQualified individuals in areas of concern	On an ongoing basis	
Professional development for school-level staff (onboarding and refreshers)	Special Education Director	On an ongoing basis	Online and/or in-person trainings
Obtain information/input from parents	IEP Team	On an ongoing basis	
Transition meetings will be held at the convenience of the parents	Special EducationDirectorIEP Team	On an ongoing basis	
Procedures will be reviewed to identify problem areas and any needed revisions, updates, or areas of training.	Special Education Director	At least annually	

PLACEMENT AND LRE

Individual Education Plans (IEPs) will be developed by teams, which will include all roles identified with Federal and state rules, within 30 days from the initial eligibility decision and at least annually, consistent with state and federal rules and regulations. The District will use the state-provided model forms to make sure all required components are considered and included. While a draft may be developed before an IEP meeting, the draft will not be considered as the final version and shall be reviewed and revised based on the team, including the parent, input and consensus. If a parent requests an alternate means of attendance, the team will offer attendance via phone or virtual conferences. Procedures for such options will be developed to ensure confidentiality and to obtain proper signatures.

To the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or nonpublic schools and approved service agencies, are educated with children who are not disabled. Special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only when the nature or the severity of the disability is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

PLACEMENT AND LRE

School-Aged (Ages 5-21)				
Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)	
Inform staff of the placement options within the continuum and the consideration process used to determine appropriate placement	Special Education Director	On an ongoing basis		
Consider and coordinate accommodations, modifications, assistive technology, and/or behavioral supports that have been implemented prior to moving a student to a more restrictive setting	Special EducationDirectorIEP Team	On an ongoing basis	 IEP Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) Safety Plan 	
Individualized Education Program Team will address Placement and Least Restrictive Environment for all students and their individualized needs. When making the placement decision the team shall:	IEP Team • For Separate and Residential placements, IEP Team may include teacher and/or representative from the school that will be providing services	The IEP will take effect on a specific date indicated within the IEP document.	 IEP Notice and Consent for Initial Placement (when appropriate) Prior Written Notice (when appropriate) 	

 Review and discuss past educational experiences; • Review current levels of educational performance: Review current education needs as documented on the IEP/IFSP; and • Review and formulate a preliminary configuration of special education and related service options. • Review and compare the options identified in (4) above with the need for LRE. To achieve this, the IEP/IFSP Team will select the special education placement that allows for the implementation of the IEP/IFSP while educating the student to the maximum extent appropriate with non-disabled peers. The team shall prepare written justification for the appropriate placement selected and document in writing why other options were not selected. The placement decision continuum may include: General Education Classes Inclusion in General Education Classes with necessary modifications, accommodations, and/or supplemental supports and services Resource Room with specialized instruction

Self-Contained Separate Schools Residential Home-bound

PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

The District will implement procedural safeguards outlined in federal and state regulations (34 CFR § 300 500, 92 NAC 51-009 01). Parents will be given a copy of their procedural safeguards annually or upon initial referral or parental request for evaluation; upon request by a parent; upon receipt by the school district or approved cooperative of the first occurrence of the filing of a complaint under 92 NAC 51-009 11 and the first occurrence of filing a special education due process case under 92 NAC 55; and in accordance with the discipline procedures in 92 NAC 51-016.

PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
Children with disabilities and their parents shall be afforded the required procedural safeguards required in 92 NAC 51-009 and will be invited to attend all MDT and IEP meetings, as well as any meetings where placement decisions will be determined.	 Special Education Case Manager School Psychologist 	On an ongoing basis	 Notice of Meeting Procedural Safeguards Notice
The district will maintain all personally identifiable student information in conformance with FERPA and 92 NAC 51. If a parent requests a hearing to challenge the content of a student record, the Superintendent will identify a hearing officer and arrange for a hearing. All staff will receive annual training regarding the confidentiality requirements contained in FERPA, 92 NAC 51 and the district's policies and procedures.	 Teaching Staff Special Education Director Building Principal Superintendent 	On an ongoing basis	 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) School Handbook List of staff with access to personally identifiable student information
Parents will be provided prior written notice prior to proposing or refusing any action with regard to special education.	 Special Education Case manager Special Education Director School Psychologist 	 Within a reasonable amount of time after the event Prior to implementing or refusing any action with 	Written Notice Forms for Evaluation Placement Reevaluation Discontinuation of Services

		regard to special education	
A copy of the Procedural Safeguards Notice will be offered in person or via mail or email.	 Special Education Case Manager School Psychologist 	 Prior to initial referral for evaluation Upon parental request At all IEP meetings Upon filing a due process appeal 	Procedural Safeguards Notice
Parents and all persons with educational rights will have access to student records at any time. Records and information will only be shared with parties outside the school district with signed written consent from parents or legal guardians.	 Special Education Director School Psychologist Special Education Case Manager 	On an ongoing basis	Consent for Release of Information form
Educational records of students with disabilities will be retained until 5 years after either graduation or discontinuation from special education programs. Records will then be offered to parents. If parents decline, records will be destroyed.	Special Education Director	On an ongoing basis	
Mediation Either the parent or the school district may initiate mediation to resolve special education disputes by making contact with the Nebraska Office of Dispute Resolution (402) 471-2766. The Office of Dispute Resolution will arrange for all meetings related to the mediation process. Mediation is voluntary on the parts of the parent and the school district.	 Special Education Director Superintendent 	On an ongoing basis	Procedural Safeguards Notice, Mediation Brochure Information. These materials are available at: www.nde.state.ne.us./SPED/mediation/index.html
Due Process A due process hearing is initiated by filing a petition with the Nebraska Department of	Special EducationDirectorSuperintendent	Follow timelines specified in 92 NAC 55	92 NAC 55, all documentation regarding dispute and district's action

Education. The content of the petition and the procedures to be followed are specified in 92 NAC 55.			Copy of letter of complaint, support documentation, district policies and procedures and letter of response to NDE
Before a due process hearing, the district must convene a meeting with the parents and relevant IEP/IFSP team members pursuant to 92 NAC 51-009.14.			
A resolution meeting will not be held if the parent and school district agree in writing to waive the meeting, or if they agree to use the mediation process.			
Resolution Process	Special EducationDirectorSuperintendent	Resolution Process Timelines in Rule 51	Parent Rights Pamphlet, which may be downloaded at http://www.nde.state.ne.us/SPED/parent/parenthp.html

SURROGATE PARENTS

Properly appointed surrogate parents will be treated as parents and guardians, in accordance with state and federal law.

SURROGATE PARENTS

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
Overseeing the process for identifying and coordinating the appointment of a surrogate	Special EducationDirectorSuperintendent	On an ongoing basis	
If the district identifies students who may be in need of a surrogate parent, the district will: 1. Attempt to identify and locate the parent; 2. Investigate the legal status of those student(s); and 3. If after a reasonable effort, the parents cannot be located, the school district shall ensure that the rights of students with disabilities are protected by appointing a surrogate. 4. Surrogates will be provided sufficient training to assure they are knowledgeable as to the legal rights and educational needs of the student they are to represent. Training will be conducted as needed. 5. Surrogates will be appointed by the director of special education following documentation that no conflict of interest exists and completion of appropriate training or assurance that the surrogate is knowledgeable in order to represent the student. 6. Surrogates will be monitored on a	Special Education Director Superintendent	On an ongoing basis	
regular basis to ensure effective			

	perforr	mance. Should a surrogate			
	be und	able or unwilling to discharge			
	his or h	ner duties, a new surrogate			
	will be	appointed by the director.			
7.	The sur	rrogate parent shall continue			
	to repr	resent the student until one of			
	the fol	lowing occurs:			
	a.	The student is determined to			
		no longer be eligible for, or			
		in need of, special			
		education or related			
		services except when			
		termination from such			
		programs is being			
		contested;			
	b.	The parent, who was			
		previously unknown, or			
		whose whereabouts were			
		previously unknown or a			
		guardian or person acting			
		as the student's parents			
		becomes known; and/or,			
	C.	It is determined that the			
		appointed surrogate parent			
		no longer adequately			
		represents the student.			
	d.	The surrogate parent's term			
		has expired.			

ASSESSMENT PARTICIPATION AND REPORTING

For students with disabilities participating in the regular education assessment, the District will develop guidelines for the provision of appropriate accommodations on assessments. Students will only be eligible for participation in the alternate assessment if they meet state and federal regulations. The District will develop guidelines for the participation and accommodations of children with disabilities in alternate assessments.

ASSESSMENT PARTICIPATION AND REPORTING

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
Review district guidelines for the provision of appropriate accommodations on regular state and benchmark assessments	Special Education DirectorBuilding Principals	Annually	
Submit any reports to meet the reporting requirements	Special Education DirectorBuilding Principals	Annually	

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND REMOVALS

The District will implement positive behavior intervention strategies to promote appropriate behaviors and improve the school climate. Change of placement decisions related to disciplinary removals will be consistent with federal and state regulations (Section 300 530, 92 NAC 51-009 016).

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND REMOVALS

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)	
Notify special education teachers of disciplinary removals	Building principal	Within a reasonable timeframe after the student is removed	Email message	
Initiate manifestation determination review (MDR) processes	Special EducationDirectorSchool Psychologist	After 10 disciplinary removals with a pattern of behavior • Manifestation Determination Rev • 10 Day Manifestation • Student handbook		
Notify parent of MDR meeting	Special EducationDirectorSchool Psychologist	Within a reasonable timeframe after 10 disciplinary removals with a pattern of behavior		
Facilitate the MDR meeting and determine who needs to be included	Special EducationDirectorSchool Psychologist			
Completing a prior written notice	Special EducationDirectorSchool Psychologist	Within a reasonable timeframe after the student is removed	• PWN	
Professional development on the MDR process	Special EducationDirectorSchool Psychologist	On an ongoing basis	Online and/or in-person training	

TRANSPORTATION

The District will coordinate and supply transportation needs of children with disabilities within the school district consistent with state and federal regulations (34 CFR § 300 34, 34 CRF § 300 107, and 34 CFR § 300 179; 92 NAC 51-009 07 07C4a, 92 NAC 51-009 003 49 92 NAC 51-009 014) to include transportation services needed for children (including birth to 5-year-olds who are wards of the state, parentally placed nonpublic students who require services) to access academic, related services, and nonacademic services and activities as determined by the child's IEP team. Except when a parent is transporting only his or her child, the board of education shall require that the driver and vehicle meet the standards required by 92 NAC 91 and 92.

TRANSPORTATION

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
Ensure transportation needs are implemented in a timely manner	Director of Transportation	On an ongoing basis	
Coordinating reimbursement for eligible parents who transport their student	 Director of Transportation Special Education Director Financial Secretary 	On an as-needed basis	Mileage reimbursement form Mileage Claim Form.xlsx
Coordinating transportation needs of birth to 5-year-olds who are wards of the state	 Director of Transportation Special Education Director Building Principal 	On an as-needed basis	

COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT

The District will implement a comprehensive system of personnel development to include staff training and updates on areas of special education and best practices.

COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT

School Age (Ages 3-5)

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
All personnel appropriately and adequately prepared and trained	 Special Education Director ESU 4 Personnel Superintendent 	On an ongoing basis	
Have content knowledge and skills to serve children with disabilities	 Special Education Director ESU 4 Personnel Superintendent 	On an ongoing basis	
State approved certification	 Special Education Director ESU 4 Personnel Superintendent 	On an ongoing basis	
Sign language interpreter	 Special Education Director ESU 4 Personnel Superintendent 	On an ongoing basis	
Confidentiality	 Special Education Director ESU 4 Personnel Superintendent 	On an ongoing basis	

COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
All personnel appropriately and adequately prepared and trained	Special EducationDirectorSuperintendent	On an ongoing basis	
Have content knowledge and skills to serve children with disabilities	Special EducationDirectorSuperintendent	On an ongoing basis	
State approved certification	Special EducationDirectorSuperintendent	On an ongoing basis	
Sign language interpreter	Special EducationDirectorSuperintendent	On an ongoing basis	
Confidentiality	Special EducationDirectorSuperintendent	On an ongoing basis	

CONFIDENTIALITY

The District will protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information in the education records of students with disabilities. The District shall maintain a system of safeguards to protect the confidentiality of students' educational records and personally identifiable information when collecting, retaining, disclosing, and destroying student special education records, in accordance with Board policy, state requirements, and federal and state law and regulations.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Task	Person Responsible	When to Complete	Forms Needed (if any)
Maintain records of parties who obtain access to education records collected, maintained, or used under Part B of the IDEA	 Building-level secretarial staff Special Education Director School Psychologist Building Counselors 	On an ongoing basis	Educational records/access forms
Securing parental consent for release of records, when needed	 Building-level secretarial staff Special Education Director School Psychologist 	On an ongoing basis	Parental consent/release forms
Destruction of records	 Building-level secretarial staff Special Education Director 	Annually	

DATES REVIEWED

The District will review and update the policies and procedures document on an annual basis. Any changes that need to occur will be discussed with the team prior to implementation.

Date Reviewed	Personel	Changes (if any)