

PROGRAMS FOR PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES

Districts shall provide a free appropriate public education and necessary related services to all children with disabilities residing within the district, as required under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act, and New Hampshire Law.

Students with disabilities may be eligible for rights and services under both the IDEA and Section 504 or may be identified as disabled only within the parameters of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act if they do not require services pursuant to the IDEA.

Under IDEA:

- Districts shall follow procedures as delineated in the NH Procedural Safeguards Handbook for Special Education for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities.
- Districts recognize their obligation to provide an education for all students who are determined to be educationally disabled and in need of special education related services.
- A school district's obligation shall begin when a student reaches three years of age and shall continue until the student's 21st birthday or until such time as he/she receives a high school diploma, whichever occurs first, or until the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team determines that the child no longer requires special education in accordance with federal and state law.

Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973:

- Districts shall establish and implement a system of procedural safeguards. The safeguards shall cover students' identification, evaluation, educational safeguards and educational placement.
- This system shall include notice, and opportunity for the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to examine relevant records, and impartial hearing with opportunity for participation by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), and representation by counsel, the right to be represented by legal counsel and review procedure.

At the discretion of the Superintendent and/or his/her designee, students who reach the age of 21 during the academic year may be allowed to complete the remainder of the school year.

First Reading: December 12, 2011

Second Reading: December 19, 2011

Third Reading: January 23, 2012

Adopted: January 23, 2012