

I have concerns about my child's

LEARNING

SPEECH

BEHAVIOR

DEVELOPMENT

SPECIAL EDUCATION IS HERE TO SUPPORT!

For more information on special education at your child's school, please contact

Jill Rockrohr, Director of Special Services, 815-357-5085

HOW DO I ACCESS FREE SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES?

1. WHO can refer a child for a special education evaluation?

Anyone, including a parent, concerned about a child's learning, development, speech, or behavior can make a referral (or request) for a special education evaluation. If the school determines an evaluation is necessary, **written consent from the child's parent is required** before an evaluation is conducted.

2. WHAT is an evaluation?

An evaluation may involve **observations and tests** with the child and interviews with the parent.

3. HOW is special education eligibility determined?

A school-based team, including the parent, will review the evaluation results and determine if the child has a disability and needs special education services.

4. WHAT will happen if a child is determined eligible for special education services?

A team, including the parent, will convene to **develop an individualized education program (IEP)** to support the child. All of this is provided free of charge.

SPECIAL EDUCATION IDENTIFICATION TIMELINE

Special Education Referral



School Review



Parent Consent to Evaluate



Evaluation

within 30 days of parent consent



Review of Evaluation Results

within 60 days of parent consent



Eligibility Determination



Individualized
Education Program (IEP)

What is Child Find? Child find is a process required by the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)* to identify, locate, and evaluate all children from birth through 22 years of age who may have disabilities and may need special education services. Child find is an ongoing process of public awareness and screening activities that help to ensure all students who need special education receive these services.

osse.dc.gov



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DC GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

Legal Notice of Special Education Services Available in LaSalle and Putnam County Schools

The summer will be over before we know it, and your local school district is preparing for a successful school year.

This notice is meant to inform all parents and community members of the school districts listed below that comprehensive special education programs and services for all students with disabilities are currently available through your own local district or through the other districts of the L.E.A.S.E. special education joint agreement, (the LaSalle/Putnam County Educational Alliance for Special Education). The following is a list of the 27 member school districts of L.E.A.S.E.:

Leland Comm. Unit Dist. #1	Ottawa Twp. High School #140
Serena Unit Dist. #2	Ottawa Elementary #141
Earlville Comm. Unit #9	Marseilles Elementary #150
Streator Twp. High School #40	Seneca Twp. High School #160
Streator Elementary #44	Seneca Comm. Cons. #170
Allen/Otter Creek Comm. Cons. #65	Dimmick Comm. Cons. #175
Tonica Comm. Cons. #79	Waltham Comm. Cons. #185
Deer Park Comm. Cons. #82	Wallace Comm. Cons. #195
Grand Ridge Comm. Cons. #95	Miller Twp. Comm. Cons. #210
LaSalle-Peru Twp. High School #120	Rutland Comm. Cons. #230
LaSalle Elementary #122	Mendota Twp. High School #280
Peru Elementary #124	Mendota Comm. Cons. #289
Oglesby Elementary #125	Lostant Comm. Unit #425
	Putnam Co. Comm. Unit #535

Within the L.E.A.S.E. Cooperative, all member school districts establish, maintain or have access to special education instructional programs, resource programs and related services which meet the educational needs of children with the following challenges when they restrict appropriate educational functioning: 1.] auditory/visual/physical/health impairments; 2.] speech/language impairments; 3.] deficits in the essential learning processes of perception, conceptualization, memory, attention or motor control; 4.] deficits in intellectual development or mental capacity; 5.] affective/behavioral disorders; 6.] adaptive behavior delays; 7.] traumatic brain injury or autism.

Referrals of students for special education services may be made by parents, community service agencies, persons having the primary care and custody of the child, other professional persons having knowledge of the child's difficulties, the child, the State Board of Education as well as by local school personnel. Referral forms are available from your local principal, superintendent or school psychologist.

Parents may also access a copy of the "Illinois Administrative Code, Part 226 - Special Education Rules and Regulations", by writing to the Illinois State Board of Education, 100 North First Street, Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001, or by visiting the ISBE website at www.isbe.net. Information for Parents/Guardians can also be found on the ISBE website or by following this link: <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Special-Education-Parents-of-Students-with-Disabilities.aspx>. Question and concerns can also be addressed by contacting L.E.A.S.E at 1009 Boyce Memorial Drive, Ottawa, Illinois 61350; phone 815-433-6433.

Students who qualify for home or hospital instruction during the course of the school year should be referred to their local school. Parents or medical professionals making such a referral will be required to complete the *Medical Certification for Home/ Hospital* form. This form must be completed by a licensed medical physician and delineates the primary diagnosis, the estimated length of the students need for

services and explains the need for home or hospital instruction. Students enrolled in school for the first time will be informally observed or screened to determine any possible need for an evaluation to assess any specific need for special education services. Parent notification and consent of any district intent to initiate an evaluation or to provide direct special education services is required for any child being considered for either of these.

Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, your school district recognizes its responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel and students. No discrimination regarding any person with a disability will be knowingly permitted relative to admission, access to services or employment in any of the programs and activities of the school.

If you have any questions about the availability of special education services in your local school district, please contact your local district. If you have any questions about State or federal special education requirements or about programs within the L.E.A.S.E. Cooperative, please call the L.E.A.S.E. Office at 815-433-6433 for this information.

We look forward to a very positive school year and, as always, L.E.A.S.E. appreciates your cooperation and assistance in helping local school district staff to provide a high quality education for your child and for all students.