

Background

In 2004, the revised Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) was signed into law by the President of the United States. Several changes were made from the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that was enacted in 1997.

Some of the Changes include:

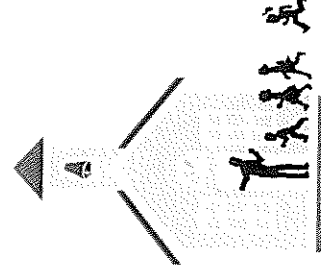
- Designation of the school district in which the private school is located as the responsible agency for the assessment and eligibility determination of children with disabilities;
- A requirement that a proportionate amount of federal funds be expended for students with disabilities; and
- The requirement that school districts consult with private school representatives in the design and development of special education services for children with disabilities in private school.

The information contained in this brochure refers to children who are enrolled in private schools when there is not a dispute with the parent about the appropriateness of the public school district's proposed program.

Child Find

All school districts have a responsibility to conduct Child Find. The purpose of Child Find is to ensure that all children with disabilities placed in private schools are identified, located, and evaluated through a practical method to determine which children with disabilities are receiving the special education services that are needed.

Any parents of children who are attending private schools and/or private school staff that suspect a child has a disability should contact the school district in which the private school is located for information regarding assessment to determine eligibility for special education services.



Equitable Services

In general, districts must spend a proportionate share of federal funds to children with disabilities who are placed in private schools by their parents.

The services provided to children can be direct or indirect services and can be provided at the private school, including religious schools. These services can be delivered by employees of the school district or through contracts with public agency individuals, associations, or organizations. It is the responsibility of the school district in which the private school is located to provide the services that are agreed upon during the consultation process.

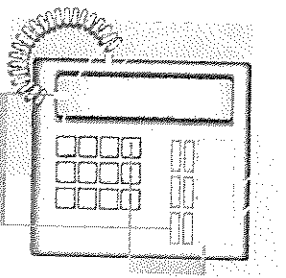
Services must be secular, neutral, and non-ideological, including materials and equipment.

Children with disabilities placed in private schools do not have an individual right to a free and appropriate public education (FAPE).

Note

Students affected by this portion of IDEA 2004 will receive a Service Plan, which outlines the type of service, if any, available to students enrolled in private schools.

For further information, contact the school district where the child's private school is located. Questions may also be directed to the SELPA Administrator at the West End SELPA at (909) 476-6131



Consultation

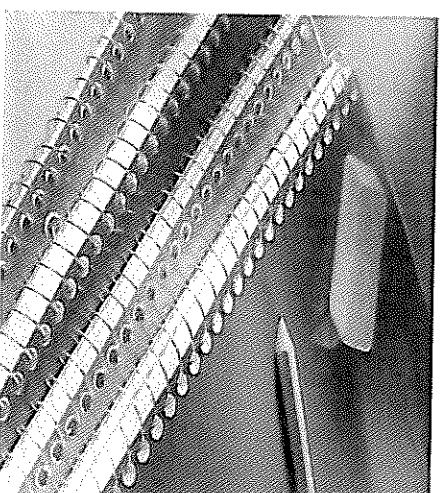
IDEA 2004 requires that Local Education Agencies (school districts) consult with private schools in their geographic region to design and develop special education and related services for students who are placed in private schools by their parents.

The consultation is a conversation among private school representatives, representatives of parents of children with disabilities that have placed their child in a private school, and representation from Local Education Agencies.

The topics for consultation include the procedures for Child Find and the federal funding available to children with disabilities placed in private schools for services and the provision of special education and related services. This includes types of services, how services will be provided, when and where they will be provided, and by whom they will be provided. Consultation is meant to be an ongoing dialogue amount Local Education Agencies and private schools.

IDEA 2004

Private School Students With Disabilities



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**"A Partnership Dedicated
to Education"**

Para información en español,
Llamar al teléfono 909-476-6161