

**Instruction**

**Special Education Program**

The Board shall provide a free, appropriate education for each resident eligible student between the ages of 3 and 21 requiring special education and related services.

The Board shall provide special education and related services in accordance with the following requirements:

1. Such education shall be consistent with the requirements of state and federal statutes and regulations;
2. Such education shall be provided under public supervision, at public expense and at no cost to parents; provided that, if a student is eligible for any public or private insurance, or health or welfare benefit, nothing in this section shall be construed as relieving the insurer or provider from any otherwise valid obligation to provide or to pay for any service or services;
3. Such education shall be in conformity with the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP);
4. Such education shall ensure that students requiring special education and related services are educated in the least restrictive environment;
5. Such education shall ensure that all students are given the opportunity to participate in all aspects of the school program, including graduation and all extra-curricular activities, to the limits of each student's capacity as determined by the Planning and Placement Team [PPT];
6. Such education shall provide bilingual education in accordance with the student's needs as set forth in conformance with state and federal statutes and regulations;
7. Eligibility for such education shall begin on an identified student's third birthday and continue until graduation or the end of the school year in which the student turns twenty-one whichever comes first. Board policy will remain current with state and federal statutes and regulations and be interpreted based upon the most recent such statutes and regulations;
8. The Board shall provide all students requiring special education and related services with the full range of special education and related services as set forth in current state and federal statutes and regulations; provided, however, that the Board shall be required only to provide identification, referral and evaluation services for gifted and talented students. The provision of all other special education and related services to gifted and talented students shall be at the option of the Board.
9. The Board will employ either the number of certified and/or licensed personnel and support personnel necessary to implement the special education and related services required in each eligible student's IEP contract to provide such special education and related services when educational needs cannot be met by public school arrangements. The Board shall ensure that all services contracted for are provided in conformance with the student's IEP and the requirements of state and federal statutes and regulations;

10. The Board shall provide for a system of personnel development to meet the requirements of state and federal statutes and regulations. In-service training on special education and related services shall be given to all personnel involved in the provision of educational services;
11. Unless otherwise specified in a student's IEP, the minimum school day and year for students requiring special education and related services shall be the same as that for students in the regular education program;
12. The Board shall provide special education and related services in a physical environment appropriate to the student's needs as set forth in the student's IEP; and Students requiring special education and related services shall receive such services in the least restrictive environment and within regular education facilities where appropriate;
13. The Board is responsible for the identification of and programming for resident students requiring special education and related services. The responsibility shall include cooperating with other agencies in a position to identify students requiring special education and related services. Determination of a student's eligibility to receive special education and related services shall be based on state and federal statutes and regulations; and
14. The Board shall accept and process referrals from appropriate school personnel, as well as from a student's parents, legal guardian, or from a physician, clinic or social worker, provided the parent so permits, in order to determine a student's eligibility for special education and related services.

(cf. 6181 - Evaluation of Special Education Program)

**Legal Reference:**

Connecticut General Statutes

10-76a Definitions.

10-76b State supervision of special education programs and services.  
Regulations. Coordinating agency.

10-76d Duties and powers of Board of Education to provide special education programs and services. Determination of eligibility for Medicaid. State agency placements; apportionment of costs. Relationship of insurance to special education costs.

10-76f Definition of terms used in formula for state aid for special education

10-76g State aid for special education.

10-76h Special education hearing and review procedure. Mediation of disputes.  
State Board of Education Regulations.

Conn. Agencies Regs. 10-76a: Definitions

10-76b: Administration and supervision 10-76d: Conditions of instruction 10-76h: Due process 10-76i: Program evaluation

## Federal Regulations

34 C.F.R. 300 et seq. Assistance to States for the Education of Children with Disabilities.

300.4 to .30 Special education definitions. 300.340 to .350 Individualized education programs. 300.502 Independent educational evaluation.

300.530 to .536 Procedures for Evaluation and Determination of Eligibility.

300.550 to .556 Least restrictive environment LRE.

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LEDYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
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