

SPECIAL EDUCATION - IDENTIFICATION

Adopted: 4/28/2022

Referral for Services

First Reading: 4/28/2022

The Administrator of the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) shall prepare written procedures for receiving, documenting and routing requests for consideration of an individual who may be in need of special education and related services. A brief statement of the rationale for the referral shall be made a part of the original referral.

All individuals with disabilities residing in Tuolumne County SELPA, including pupils with disabilities who are enrolled in elementary, secondary and private schools, who are in need of special education and related services, shall be identified, located and assessed in the areas of suspected disability. The referral to special education itself is usually initiated or received at the local education agency (LEA) level which begins the referral process.

A pupil should be referred for special education by LEA personnel only after resources and possible accommodations for the student to be successful in the regular education program have been exhausted. This includes modifications of curriculum and accommodations for learning abilities and styles. General program resources include intervention programs, LEA-wide improvement programs, and grant-based programs.

Referrals for assessment to determine eligibility for special education and related services may come from teachers, parents, agencies, appropriate professional persons, and from members of the public. All referrals received from any public or private source will be processed.

A pupil may be referred, as appropriate, for further assessment and recommendations to the California Schools for the Deaf and Blind, or to the California Department of Education's Diagnostic Center. Such referrals shall be based on a recommendation from the IEP team and shall have the approval of parents and the special education administrator or designee of the LEA.

If the referral did not originate from the parents, the LEA will notify the parents in writing. Member LEAs are permitted to utilize a student study team process to discuss referrals for assessments from parents and/or LEA personnel; however, regardless of the origin of the referral, unless otherwise agreed upon in writing with the parent[s], the LEA shall give the parents a written assessment plan within fifteen (15) days of the referral. The parents shall have at least

fifteen (15) days from receipt of the proposed assessment plan to provide consent to the assessment plan.

References: EC 56205 (a) (3)-(4);
EC 56301- 56303;
EC 56321;
EC 56326