

Chapter 2: Information on Evaluations/Assessments

- (2.1) How can I get the school district to evaluate or assess my child?
- (2.2) How long will it take for the district to complete my child's assessment?
- (2.3) Does my child have to be referred to the student study team before assessment for special education?
- (2.4) My child's school is on a year-round schedule, but I was told that they didn't have to test my child in July or August. Is that true?
- (2.5) My child is on a traditional school year calendar (August through June) and also attends an extended school year program during the summer. Does the district have to do assessments during the summer?
- (2.6) My child has been referred for special education, and I received an assessment plan with a long list of tests that might be administered. Shouldn't the district be more specific?
- (2.7) How can I contribute to the assessment process?
- (2.8) Can a school district conduct an assessment without my written approval?
- (2.9) What questions should I ask when my child is scheduled for an assessment?
- (2.10) What should an assessment cover?
- (2.11) Can I ask for very specific kinds of assessments — such as a neurological examination or a non-oral assessment? What if the district does not have appropriately trained personnel to do the testing?
- (2.12) Is a doctor the only professional who can provide an ADD/ADHD diagnosis as part of the special education assessment process?

- (2.13) How can I ensure that the assessment covers emotional and behavioral areas?
- (2.14) I believe that my child has a learning disability. Does the school have to do anything different when assessing for a specific learning disability?
- (2.15) What are the most common tests used in the assessment of a child with suspected learning disabilities?
- (2.16) Are there documents that I may have that would help in the assessment process?
- (2.17) How can I explain to my child why he is being assessed?
- (2.18) How can I prepare my child for assessment?
- (2.19) What are the procedures and standards for assessment tests and tools?
- (2.20) Who conducts the assessment?
- (2.21) Does the assessment have to be provided in my child's primary language?
- (2.22) Are there public education facilities outside of the school district that can assess my child?
- (2.23) How much detail should be included in my child's written assessment?
- (2.24) Do I have the right to examine and/or get copies of my child's educational records?
- (2.25) Can I get copies of written assessment reports before the IEP meeting?
- (2.26) Are formal standardized tests the only kind of assessment data that the IEP team can review?
- (2.27) If I do not agree with the school district's evaluation, can I get the

- school district to pay for an independent evaluation?
- (2.28) Can the district limit the cost of an independent evaluation and limit the evaluator to someone it selects?
 - (2.29) If I disagree with an evaluation performed by the school, can I get an independent evaluation at my expense from someone who is qualified but is not employed by the school?
 - (2.30) Is there any other way to obtain an independent evaluation if the district refuses to provide one and I am unable to pay for one?
 - (2.31) The school district is refusing to let an independent evaluator visit the school site to observe my child in his current or proposed placement. What can I do?
 - (2.32) How often must evaluations be conducted for a student with a disability?
 - (2.33) Must a school district conduct additional testing for every student with a disability as part of a re-evaluation?
 - (2.34) Is a school district required to do an evaluation before it disqualifies a student from special education eligibility?
 - (2.35) Is parental consent needed for re-evaluation of a child?
 - (2.36) What can I do if I believe that the re-evaluation has been done superficially just to meet the legal mandate?
 - (2.37) My child is temporarily placed in a psychiatric hospital that is located in another county. Who is responsible for conducting a special education assessment or re-evaluation?
 - (2.38) What is the assessment process for Section 504 Is it the same as the special education assessment process?
 - (2.39) If I request an assessment for Section 504 eligibility, does the school district have to assess my child to determine his eligibility for

accommodations and/or services?

- (2.40) Should my child be included in the school's regular performance assessments?
- (2.41) What are the legal requirements that ensure appropriate and accurate special education assessment for multicultural students?
- (2.42) How can I ensure that my child has an appropriate assessment?
- (2.43) Must the district assess my child before she becomes ineligible for special education because of age or graduation with a regular diploma?
- (2.44) My child is in a private school. Must the district evaluate her for special education eligibility even if I have no intention of taking her out of her private school?
- (2.45) What is the Larry P. v. Riles case? How did it originate?
- (2.46) Did CDE take specific action to implement Larry P.?
- (2.47) Does the Larry P. case affect all children who may need special education assessments?
- (2.48) What was the Diana v. State Board of Education case? What impact does the Diana case have on Spanish-speaking students?
- (2.49) What are some commonly used tests for Spanish-speaking students who may need special education services?
- (2.50) What is the effect of Diana and Larry P. on special education assessments for other ethnic and language minority students?
- (2.51) What is the effect of Larry P. on the special education eligibility criteria?