

NPS (NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL) MONITORING

5.6195.8 (b)(1), 56205 (c)

POLICY

The LEA Governing Boards may contract with state-certified nonpublic, nonsectarian schools or agencies to provide special education services when an appropriate public education program is not available. Nonpublic, nonsectarian schools or agencies will be utilized only when no appropriate public education program is available to meet the individual student's special education needs as determined through the IEP process. Services will be provided in accordance with the NPS or NPA Master Contract and Individual Services Agreement

PROCEDURES

The IEP team recommends nonpublic school services only after reviewing all available public agency programs and considering the need for services to be provided in the least restrictive environment. If these are appropriate to the student, the IEP team develops the individualized education program for the pupil to be placed in a nonpublic school. During program development, the IEP team must consider nonpublic school placements within the state of California before recommending placement outside of California. In order to be considered, nonpublic schools must be licensed and approved by the California Department of Education.

When the IEP Team has determined that a non-public, non-sectarian school program or service is necessary for a pupil, the appropriate program specialist, LEA Director or SELPA Director will assist the parent in locating an appropriate placement. When a student meets the requirements under AB3632 for an emotionally disturbed student, a Mental Health department representative will take an active role in locating placement options in consultation with district and SELPA personnel. The Mental Health representative shall attend the IEP meeting to present non-public school placement options.

The IEP team interfaces with the nonpublic school in the areas of referral, placement and evaluation. The IEP team is responsible for establishing and maintaining procedures for communicating with the nonpublic school as well as with other professional individuals, appropriate to the needs of the pupil, the IEP team chairperson provides information to the IEP team members regarding local nonpublic school services.

Upon placement in a nonpublic school, parents are notified of their responsibility to notify the local education agency that placed the student of any change of residence.

Nonpublic school contracts include:

- Financial agreements for the services and description of services to be provided on the individualized education program;
- Negotiation of length, duration and frequency of services;
- Provisions for changes in the agreement if they do not alter the education instruction or services provided the pupil;
- Provisions for termination for cause with a 20 day notice;
- The contract shall include procedures for record keeping and documentation to assure that appropriate high school graduation credit is received by the pupil;
- The NPS/NPA shall provide all the services in the IEP unless it is agreed and stated otherwise in the contract;
- A written course of study designed to provide adequate credits for graduation is available.

NPSs are required by the master contract and the IEP to annually evaluate the pupils to determine if they are making appropriate educational progress. The IEP team and the nonpublic school coordinate pupil re-evaluation that is to occur on at least an annual basis. At that time, the re-evaluation data is reported by the nonpublic school and reviewed by the IEP team. A representative from the nonpublic school should attend the re-evaluation meeting and provide input and recommendations as appropriate. A determination is then made at the meeting regarding the needs and programming of each pupil. The IEP team has the option on continuing, modifying or discontinuing the current programming.