



24. Section 504

Section 504 is a civil rights statute that prohibits public schools from denying educational participation and benefits to students with disabilities. A student is eligible for services under Section 504 if the student:

- Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, including learning; or
- Has a record of such impairment; or
- Is regarded as having such impairment

Administrators, students, counselors, teachers, parents/guardians may refer a student for Section 504 evaluation. Each school site has a 504 team which is composed of:

- Site 504 coordinator,
- Parent/Guardian
- Other professionals knowledgeable about the student and who are able to interpret a variety of data.

This team will assess the student and develop necessary plans. A 504 plan is known as an Individualized Service Plan (ISP).

Students eligible for special education receive services under an IEP. Students not eligible for special education may still be entitled to services under an ISP as Section 504 defines disability more broadly than IDEA.

If it is determined at an IEP team meeting that a student does not qualify for special education, the student should be referred for 504 consideration for a 504 plan.