



**Kemper County School District  
Department of Exceptional Education  
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# **KCSD Exceptional Education Policy**

# Exceptional Education Department Policy

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# Exceptional Education Department Policy

## I. Purpose

A. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all children with disabilities within our school district receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE) that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment, and independent living.

## II. Compliance

A. Our district will adhere to all federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and policies governing the education of students with disabilities, including:

1. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
2. Mississippi State Board of Education Policy Chapter 74, Rule 74.19
3. Mississippi Policies and Procedures Regarding Children with Disabilities

## III. Child Find

A. We will identify, locate, and evaluate all children with disabilities from birth through age 21 within our district.

B. Public awareness activities and screening processes will be conducted annually.

C. We will accept written requests for comprehensive evaluations.

D. All requests will be documented within 24 hours of receipt.

E. We will respond to all requests within 14 calendar days, with day one being the first business day after the request.

## IV. Evaluation and Eligibility

A. Comprehensive evaluations will be conducted within 60 days of receiving parental consent.

B. The Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MET) will include:

1. Administrator (principal or IEP coordinator)
2. General education teacher
3. Special education teacher
4. Parents or guardians
5. School psychologist

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6. Relevant specialists (e.g., speech therapist, occupational therapist)
  7. Professional who can interpret evaluation results
  8. Eligibility will be determined based on Mississippi Department of Education criteria.
- V. Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- A. IEPs will be developed, implemented, reviewed, and revised at least annually.
  - B. The IEP team will include all required members as per IDEA regulations.
  - C. Placement decisions will be based on the least restrictive environment principle.
- VI. Service Delivery
- A. We will implement IEPs and provide services as written.
  - B. Student progress will be monitored and reported to parents regularly.
  - C. Extended School Year (ESY) services will be provided to eligible students.
  - D. Transition planning and services will be provided for students aged 14 and older.
- VII. Procedural Safeguards
- A. Parents will receive a Procedural Safeguards Notice in understandable language.
  - B. We will obtain informed parental consent for evaluations and services.
  - C. Student records will be kept confidential in accordance with FERPA.
  - D. Dispute resolution options, including mediation and due process, will be available.
- VIII. Discipline
- A. Manifestation determinations will be conducted for disciplinary changes in placement.
  - B. Behavior intervention plans will be developed when necessary.
  - C. Services will be provided during removals exceeding 10 school days in a school year.
- IX. Staff Responsibilities

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- A. All special education teachers and related service providers must meet Mississippi certification requirements.
  - B. Ongoing professional development will be provided to all staff.
- X. Program Compliance and Accountability
- A. Internal monitoring will be conducted to ensure compliance with state and federal laws.
  - B. We will collect and report data as required by the Mississippi Department of Education.
  - C. Corrective action plans will be developed and implemented if needed.

This policy will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect any changes in state or federal regulations. All staff members are responsible for understanding and implementing this policy to ensure the provision of high-quality special education services to our students with disabilities.