

Notice to Parents Regarding Child Identification, Location, Screening & Evaluation

This notice is to inform parents of the child identification, location, screening, and evaluation activities to be conducted throughout the year by the local school district in coordination with the Oklahoma State Department of Education. Personally identifiable information shall be collected and maintained in a confidential manner in carrying out the following activities:

Referral

Preschool children ages 3 through 5 and students enrolled in K-12 who are suspected of having disabilities which may require special education and related services may be referred for screening and evaluation through the local schools. Local school districts coordinate with the Sooner Start Early Intervention Program in referrals for identification and evaluation of infants and toddlers who may be eligible for early intervention services from birth through 2 years of age or for special education and related services beginning at 3 years of age. The Oklahoma Areawide Service Information System (OASIS), through a toll free number (1-800-42-OASIS), also provides statewide information and referrals to local schools and other service providers.

Screening

Screening activities may include vision, hearing, and health. Other screening activities may include: review of records and educational history; interviews; observations; and specially developed readiness or educational screening instruments.

(1) Readiness Screening

Personally identifiable information is collected on all kindergarten students participating in schoolwide screening to assess readiness prior to entry into first grade. Results of the screening are made available to parents or legal guardians, teachers, and school administrators. No child shall be screened for readiness or evaluated without prior written notice to the child's parent or legal guardian or whose parent or legal guardian has filed written objection with the local school district.

(2) Educational Screening

Educational screening includes accepted procedures for the identification of children who may have special learning needs and may be eligible for special education and related services in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Each school district in the State provides educational screening. No child shall be educationally screened without prior notice to the child's parent or legal guardian or whose parent or legal guardian has filed written objection with the local school district.

- Educational Screening is implemented for all first grade students each school year.
- Second through twelfth grade students shall be screened as needed or upon request of the parent, legal guardian or teacher.

- Students entering the public school system from another state or from within the state without previous educational screening, shall be educationally screened within 6 months from the date of such entry.

Evaluation

Evaluation means procedures used in accordance with Federal laws and regulations to determine whether a child has a disability and the nature and extent of the special education and related services that the child needs. The term means procedures used selectively with an individual child and does not include basic tests administered or procedures used with all children in school, grade, or class. Written consent of the parent or legal guardian for such evaluation must be on file with the local school district prior to any child receiving an initial evaluation for special education and related services purposes.