

INSTRUCTION

SUBJECT: Special Education

The County Office of Education supports the mandate of P.L. 94-142 which assures a free appropriate public education for each individual with exceptional needs.

All children with exceptional needs and their parents shall be guaranteed due process with regard to identification assessment, and placement procedures.

A written, individualized educational plan shall be developed for each child determined to have special education needs.

Individuals with exceptional needs will be educated and receive related services in the least restrictive environment appropriate to their needs.

A Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) serves children residing in most of the districts of Riverside County. The SELPA ensures that a continuum of program options is available to meet the requirements of children with exceptional needs for special education and related services.

The County Office of Education serves as the Administrative Unit for the SELPA. A Governance Council consisting of 20 district superintendents and the County Superintendent of Schools serves as the governing board of the SELPA.

By agreement of the Governance Council, the County Office of Education is responsible for the operation of programs for the severely handicapped (SH) and low incidence designated support services (DIS). Local school districts are responsible for learning handicapped (LH) programs and other DIS.

The County Office of Education is a full and equal participant in the Governance Council and the County Office of Education agrees to abide by the decisions of the Governance Council as long as it is a member of SELPA.

The SELPA Plan adopted by the Governance Council is to be made available for inspection by interested parties by the SELPA office. It shall contain compliance assurances, a description of the governance and administration of the local plan, identification of service priorities of the SELPA, student identification procedures, referral procedures, assessment procedures, instructional plans, and implementation information relating to the continuum of program options.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

56000 - Special Education Programs; Legislative Findings and declarations

56001 - Provisions of Programs

56001 - County Office

56030 - Responsible Local Agency

56031 - Special Education

56140 - County Offices; Duties

56171 - Local Plans; Duties

56220 - Written Agreements by Entities Participating in Local Plan

Adopted: 7-16-80

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