State Board of Education

Regulatory Changes to Align with Chapter 502 of the 2024 Acts of the Assembly 8VAC20-81-10. Definitions.

The following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Act" means the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, P.L. 108-446, December 3, 2004, § 1400 et seq. (34 CFR 300.4)

"Age of eligibility" means all eligible children with disabilities who have not graduated with a standard or advanced studies high school diploma who, because of such disabilities, are in need of special education and related services, and whose second birthday falls on or before September 30, and who have not reached their 22nd birthday on or before September 30 (two to 21, inclusive) in accordance with the Code of Virginia. A child with a disability whose 22nd birthday is after September 30 remains eligible for the remainder of the school year. (§ 22.1-213 of the Code of Virginia; 34 CFR 300.101(a) and 34 CFR 300.102(a)(3)(ii))

"Age of majority" means the age when the procedural safeguards and other rights afforded to the parent of a student with a disability transfer to the student. In Virginia, the age of majority is 18. (§ 1-204 of the Code of Virginia; 34 CFR 300.520)

"Agree or agreement" – see the definition for "consent."

"Alternate assessment" means the state assessment program, and any school divisionwide assessment to the extent that the school division has one, for measuring student performance against alternate achievement standards for students with significant intellectual disabilities who are unable to participate in statewide Standards of Learning testing, even with accommodations. (34 CFR 300.320(a)(2)(ii) and 34 CFR 300.704(b)(4)(x))

"Alternative assessment" means the state assessment program for measuring student performance on grade level standards for students with disabilities who are unable to participate in statewide Standards of Learning testing, even with accommodations.

"Assistive technology device" means any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of a child with a disability. The term does not include a medical device that is surgically implanted, or the replacement of that device. (34 CFR 300.5)

"Assistive technology service" means any service that directly assists a child with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device. The term includes: (34 CFR 300.6)

- 1. The evaluation of the needs of a child with a disability, including a functional evaluation of the child in the child's customary environment;
- 2. Purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices by children with disabilities;
- 3. Selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining, repairing, or replacing assistive technology devices;
- 4. Coordinating and using other therapies, interventions, or services with assistive technology devices, such as those associated with existing education and rehabilitation plans and programs;

- 5. Training or technical assistance for a child with a disability or, if appropriate, that child's family; and
- 6. Training or technical assistance for professionals (including individuals providing education or rehabilitation services), employers, or other individuals who provide services to employ or are otherwise substantially involved in the major life functions of that child.

"At no cost" means that all specially designed instruction is provided without charge, but does not preclude incidental fees that are normally charged to students without disabilities or their parent as part of the regular education program. (34 CFR 300.39(b)(1))

"Audiology" means services provided by a qualified audiologist licensed by the Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology and includes: (Regulations Governing the Practice of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, 18VAC30-20; 34 CFR 300.34(c)(1))

1. Identification of children with hearing loss;

- 2. Determination of the range, nature, and degree of hearing loss, including referral for medical or other professional attention for the habilitation of hearing;
- 3. Provision of habilitative activities, such as language habilitation, auditory training, speech reading (lip-reading), hearing evaluation, and speech conservation;
- 4. Creation and administration of programs for prevention of hearing loss;
- 5. Counseling and guidance of children, parents, and teachers regarding hearing loss; and
- 6. Determination of children's needs for group and individual amplification, selecting and fitting an appropriate aid, and evaluating the effectiveness of amplification.

"Autism" means a developmental disability significantly affecting verbal and nonverbal communication and social interaction, generally evident before age three, that adversely affects a child's educational performance. Other characteristics often associated with autism are engagement in repetitive activities and stereotyped movements, resistance to environmental change or change in daily routines, and unusual responses to sensory experiences. Autism does not apply if a child's educational performance is adversely affected primarily because the child has an emotional disturbance. A child who manifests the characteristics of autism after age three could be identified as having autism if the criteria in this definition are satisfied. (34 CFR 300.8(c)(1))

"Behavioral intervention plan" means a plan that utilizes positive behavioral interventions and supports to address behaviors that interfere with the learning of students with disabilities or with the learning of others or behaviors that require disciplinary action.

"Business day" means Monday through Friday, 12 months of the year, exclusive of federal and state holidays (unless holidays are specifically included in the designation of business days, as in 8VAC20-81-150 B 4 a (2)). (34 CFR 300.11)

"Calendar days" means consecutive days, inclusive of Saturdays and Sundays. Whenever any period of time fixed by this chapter shall expire on a Saturday, Sunday, or federal or state holiday, the period of time for taking such action under this chapter shall be extended to the next day, not a Saturday, Sunday, or federal or state holiday. (34 CFR 300.11)

"Career and technical education" means organized educational activities that offer a sequence of courses that: (20 USC § 2301 et seq.)

- 1. Provides individuals with the rigorous and challenging academic and technical knowledge and skills the individuals need to prepare for further education and for careers (other than careers requiring a master's or doctoral degree) in current or emerging employment sectors;
- 2. May include the provision of skills or courses necessary to enroll in a sequence of courses that meet the requirements of this subdivision; or

3. Provides, at the postsecondary level, for a one-year certificate, an associate degree, or industry-recognized credential and includes competency-based applied learning that contributes to the academic knowledge, higher-order reasoning and problem-solving skills, work attitudes, general employability skills, technical skills, and occupational-specific skills.

"Caseload" means the number of students served by special education personnel.

"Change in identification" means a change in the categorical determination of the child's disability by the group that determines eligibility.

"Change in placement" or "change of placement" means when the local educational agency places the child in a setting that is distinguishable from the educational environment to which the child was previously assigned and includes: (34 CFR 300.102(a)(3)(iii), 34 CFR 300.532(b)(2)(ii) and 34 CFR 300.536)

- 1. The child's initial placement from general education to special education and related services:
- 2. The expulsion or long-term removal of a student with a disability;
- 3. The placement change that results from a change in the identification of a disability;
- 4. The change from a public school to a private day, residential, or state-operated program; from a private day, residential, or state-operated program to a public school; or to a placement in a separate facility for educational purposes;
- 5. Termination of all special education and related services; or
- 6. Graduation with a standard or advanced studies high school diploma.

A "change in placement" also means any change in the educational setting for a child with a disability that does not replicate the elements of the educational program of the child's previous setting.

"Change in placement" or "change of placement," for the purposes of discipline, means: (34 CFR 300.536)

- 1. A removal of a student from the student's current educational placement is for more than 10 consecutive school days; or
- 2. The student is subjected to a series of removals that constitute a pattern because they cumulate to more than 10 school days in a school year, and because of factors such as:
 - a. The length of each removal;
 - b. The child's behavior is substantially similar to the child's behavior in previous incidents that resulted in the series of removals;
 - c. The total amount of time the student is removed; or
 - d. The proximity of the removals to one another.

"Chapter" means these regulations.

"Charter schools" means any school meeting the requirements for charter as set forth in the Code of Virginia. (§§ 22.1-212.5 through 22.1-212.16 of the Code of Virginia; 34 CFR 300.7)

"Child" means any person who shall not have reached his 22nd birthday by September 30 of the current year.

"Child with a disability" means a child evaluated in accordance with the provisions of this chapter as having an intellectual disability, a hearing impairment (including deafness), a speech or language impairment, a visual impairment (including blindness), a serious emotional disability (referred to in this part as "emotional disability"), an orthopedic impairment, autism, traumatic brain injury, an other health impairment, a specific learning disability, deaf-blindness, or multiple disabilities who, by reason thereof, needs special education and related services. This also

includes developmental delay if the local educational agency recognizes this category as a disability in accordance with 8VAC20-81-80 M 3. If it is determined through an appropriate evaluation that a child has one of the disabilities identified but only needs a related service and not special education, the child is not a child with a disability under this part. If the related service required by the child is considered special education rather than a related service under Virginia standards, the child would be determined to be a child with a disability. (§ 22.1-213 of the Code of Virginia; 34 CFR 300.8(a)(1) and 34 CFR 300.8(a)(2)(i) and (ii))

"Collaboration" means interaction among professionals as they work toward a common goal. Teachers do not necessarily have to engage in co-teaching in order to collaborate.

"Complaint" means a request that the Virginia Department of Education investigate an alleged violation by a local educational agency of a right of a parent of a child who is eligible or suspected to be eligible for special education and related services based on federal and state law and regulations governing special education or a right of such child. A complaint is a statement of some disagreement with procedures or process regarding any matter relative to the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the child, or the provision of a free appropriate public education. (34 CFR 300.151)

"Comprehensive Services Act" (CSA) means the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families that establishes the collaborative administration and funding system for services for certain at-risk youths and their families. (Chapter 52 (§ 2.2-5200 et seq.) of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia)

"Consent" means: (34 CFR 300.9)

- 1. The parents or eligible student has been fully informed of all information relevant to the activity for which consent is sought in the parent's or eligible student's native language, or other mode of communication;
- 2. The parent or eligible student understands and agrees, in writing, to the carrying out of the activity for which consent is sought, and the consent describes that activity and lists the records (if any) that will be released and to whom; and
- 3. The parent or eligible student understands that the granting of consent is voluntary on the part of the parent or eligible student and may be revoked any time.
 - a. If a parent revokes consent, that revocation is not retroactive (i.e., it does not negate an action that has occurred after the consent was given and before the consent was revoked. Revocation ceases to be relevant after the activity for which consent was obtained was completed.)
 - b. If a parent revokes consent in writing for their child's receipt of special education services after the child is initially provided special education and related services, the local educational agency is not required to amend the child's education records to remove any references to the child's receipt of special education and related services because of the revocation of consent.

The meaning of the term "consent" is not the same as the meaning of the term "agree" or "agreement." "Agree" or "agreement" refers to an understanding between the parent and the local educational agency about a particular matter and as required in this chapter. There is no requirement that an agreement be in writing, unless stated in this chapter. The local educational agency and parent should document their agreement.

"Controlled substance" means a drug or other substance identified under Schedule I, II, III, IV, or V in § 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 USC § 812(c). (34 CFR 300.530(i)(1))

"Core academic subjects" means English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics, and government, economics, arts, history, and geography. (34 CFR 300.10)

"Correctional facility" means any state facility of the Virginia Department of Corrections or the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice, any regional or local detention home, or any regional or local jail. (§§ 16.1-228 and 53.1-1 of the Code of Virginia)

"Coteaching" means a service delivery option with two or more professionals sharing responsibility for a group of students for some or all of the school day in order to combine their expertise to meet student needs.

"Counseling services" means services provided by qualified visiting teachers, social workers, psychologists, guidance counselors, or other qualified personnel. (34 CFR 300.34(c)(2); Licensure Regulations for School Personnel (8VAC20-22))

"Dangerous weapon" means a weapon, device, instrument, material, or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for or is readily capable of, causing death or bodily injury, except that such term does not include a pocket knife with a blade of less than three inches in length. (18 USC § 930(g)(2); § 18.2-308.1 of the Code of Virginia)

"Day" means calendar day unless otherwise indicated as business day or school day. (34 CFR 300.11)

"Deaf-blindness" means simultaneous hearing and visual impairments, the combination of which causes such severe communication and other developmental and educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for children with deafness or children with blindness. (34 CFR 300.8(c)(2))

"Deafness" means a hearing impairment that is so severe that the child is impaired in processing linguistic information through hearing, with or without amplification, that adversely affects the child's educational performance. (34 CFR 300.8(c)(3))

"Destruction of information" means physical destruction or removal of personal identifiers from information so that the information is no longer personally identifiable. (34 CFR 300.611(a))

"Developmental delay" means a disability affecting a child ages two by September 30 through six, inclusive: (34 CFR 300.8(b); 34 CFR 300.306(b))

- 1. (i) Who is experiencing developmental delays, as measured by appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures, in one or more of the following areas: physical development, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development, or adaptive development, or (ii) who has an established physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay;
- 2. The delay is not primarily a result of cultural factors, environmental or economic disadvantage, or limited English proficiency; and
- 3. The presence of one or more documented characteristics of the delay has an adverse affect on educational performance and makes it necessary for the student to have specially designed instruction to access and make progress in the general educational activities for this age group.

"Direct services" means services provided to a child with a disability directly by the Virginia Department of Education, by contract, or through other arrangements. (34 CFR 300.175)

"Due process hearing" means an administrative procedure conducted by an impartial special education hearing officer to resolve disagreements regarding the identification, evaluation, educational placement and services, and the provision of a free appropriate public education that arise between a parent and a local educational agency. A due process hearing involves the appointment of an impartial special education hearing officer who conducts the hearing, reviews evidence, and determines what is educationally appropriate for the child with a disability. (34 CFR 300.507)

"Early identification and assessment of disabilities in children" means the implementation of a formal plan for identifying a disability as early as possible in a child's life. (34 CFR 300.34(c)(3))

"Education record" means those records that are directly related to a student and maintained by an educational agency or institution or by a party acting for the agency or institution. The term also has the same meaning as "scholastic record." In addition to written records, this also includes electronic exchanges between school personnel and parent regarding matters associated with the child's educational program (e.g., scheduling of meetings or notices). This term also includes the type of records covered under the definition of "education record" in the regulations implementing the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act. (20 USC § 1232g(a)(3); § 22.1-289 of the Code of Virginia; 34 CFR 300.611(b))

"Educational placement" means the overall instructional setting in which the student receives his education including the special education and related services provided. Each local educational agency shall ensure that the parents of a child with a disability are members of the group that makes decisions on the educational placement of their child. (34 CFR 300.327)

"Educational service agencies and other public institutions or agencies" include: (34 CFR 300.12)

- 1. Regional public multiservice agencies authorized by state law to develop, manage, and provide services or programs to local educational agencies;
- 2. Recognized as an administrative agency for purposes of the provision of special education and related services provided within public elementary schools and secondary schools of the state;
- 3. Any other public institution or agency having administrative control and direction over a public elementary school or secondary school; and
- 4. Entities that meet the definition of intermediate educational unit in § 1402(23) of the Act as in effect prior to June 4, 1997.

"Eligible student" means a child with a disability who reaches the age of majority and to whom the procedural safeguards and other rights afforded to the parent are transferred.

"Emotional disability" means a condition exhibiting one or more of the following characteristics over a long period of time and to a marked degree that adversely affects a child's educational performance: (34 CFR 300.8(c)(4))

- 1. An inability to learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors;
- 2. An inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and teachers;
- 3. Inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances;
- 4. A general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression; or
- 5. A tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems.

Emotional disability includes schizophrenia. The term does not apply to children who are socially maladjusted, unless it is determined that they have an emotional disability as defined in this section.

"Equipment" means machinery, utilities, and built-in equipment, and any necessary enclosures or structures to house machinery, utilities, or equipment and all other items necessary for the functioning of a particular facility as a facility for the provision of educational services, including items such as instructional equipment and necessary furniture, printed, published and audio-visual instructional materials, telecommunications, sensory, and other technological aids and devices and books, periodicals, documents, and other related materials. (34 CFR 300.14)

"Evaluation" means procedures used in accordance with this chapter to determine whether a child has a disability and the nature and extent of the special education and related services that the child needs. (34 CFR 300.15)

"Excess costs" means those costs that are in excess of the average annual per-student expenditure in a local educational agency during the preceding school year for an elementary school or secondary school student, as may be appropriate, and that shall be computed after deducting: (34 CFR 300.16)

1. Amounts received:

- a. Under Part B of the Act;
- b. Under Part A of Title I of the ESEA; and
- c. Under Parts A and B of Title III of the ESEA; and
- 2. Any state or local funds expended for programs that would qualify for assistance under any of the parts described in subdivision 1 a of this definition, but excluding any amounts for capital outlay or debt service.

"Extended school year services" for the purposes of this chapter means special education and related services that: (34 CFR 300.106(b))

- 1. Are provided to a child with a disability:
 - a. Beyond the normal school year of the local educational agency;
 - b. In accordance with the child's individualized education program:
 - c. At no cost to the parent of the child; and
- 2. Meet the standards established by the Virginia Department of Education.

"Federal core academic subjects" means English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign language (languages other than English), civics and government, economics, arts, history, and geography. (20 USC § 7801(11))

"Federal financial assistance" means any grant, loan, contract or any other arrangement by which the U.S. Department of Education provides or otherwise makes available assistance in the form of funds, services of federal personnel, or real and personal property. (34 CFR 104.3(h))

"Free appropriate public education" or "FAPE" means special education and related services that: (34 CFR 300.17)

- 1. Are provided at public expense, under public supervision and direction, and without charge;
- 2. Meet the standards of the Virginia Board of Education;
- 3. Include an appropriate preschool, elementary school, middle school or secondary school education in Virginia; and
- 4. Are provided in conformity with an individualized education program that meets the requirements of this chapter.

"Functional behavioral assessment" means a process to determine the underlying cause or functions of a child's behavior that impede the learning of the child with a disability or the learning of the child's peers. A functional behavioral assessment may include a review of existing data or new testing data or evaluation as determined by the IEP team.

"General curriculum" means the same curriculum used with children without disabilities adopted by a local educational agency, schools within the local educational agency or, where applicable, the Virginia Department of Education for all children from preschool through secondary school. The term relates to content of the curriculum and not to the setting in which it is taught.

"Hearing impairment" means an impairment in hearing in one or both ears, with or without amplification, whether permanent or fluctuating, that adversely affects a child's educational

performance but that is not included under the definition of deafness in this section. (34 CFR 300.8(c)(5))

"Highly qualified special education teacher" means a teacher has met the requirements as specified in 34 CFR 300.18 for special education teachers in general, for special education teachers teaching core academic subjects, for special education teachers teaching to alternate achievement standards, or for special education teachers teaching multiple subjects as it applies to their teaching assignment. (34 CFR 300.18)

"Home-based instruction" means services that are delivered in the home setting (or other agreed upon setting) in accordance with the child's individualized education program.

"Homebound instruction" means academic instruction provided to students who are confined at home or in a health care facility for periods that would prevent normal school attendance based upon certification of need by a licensed physician or licensed clinical psychologist. For a child with a disability, the IEP team shall determine the delivery of services, including the number of hours of services. (Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia, 8VAC20-131-180)

"Home instruction" means instruction of a child or children by a parent, guardian or other person having control or charge of such child or children as an alternative to attendance in a public or private school in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Virginia. This instruction may also be termed home schooling. (§ 22.1-254.1 of the Code of Virginia)

"Homeless children" has the meaning given the term "homeless children and youth" in § 725 (42 USC § 11434a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended, 42 USC § 11431 et seq. and listed below: (34 CFR 300.19)

The term "homeless children and youth" means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence within the meaning of § 103(a)(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and includes the following:

- 1. Children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to a lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement;
- 2. Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings within the meaning of § 103(a)(2)(C);
- 3. Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- 4. Migratory children (as such term is defined in § 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965) who qualify as homeless because the children are living in circumstances described in subdivisions 1 through 3 of this definition.

The term "unaccompanied youth" includes a youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

"Home tutoring" means instruction by a tutor or teacher with qualifications prescribed by the Virginia Board of Education, as an alternative to attendance in a public or private school and approved by the division superintendent in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Virginia. This tutoring is not home instruction as defined in the Code of Virginia. (§ 22.1-254 of the Code of Virginia)

"Illegal drug" means a controlled substance, but does not include a controlled substance that is legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed health-care professional or that

is legally possessed or used under any other authority under the Controlled Substances Act, 21 USC § 812(c), or under any other provision of federal law. (34 CFR 300.530(i)(2))

"Impartial special education hearing officer" means a person, selected from a list maintained by the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia to conduct a due process hearing.

"Implementation plan" means the plan developed by the local educational agency designed to operationalize the decision of the hearing officer in cases that are fully adjudicated.

"Independent educational evaluation" means an evaluation conducted by a qualified examiner or examiners who are not employed by the local educational agency responsible for the education of the child in question. (34 CFR 300.502(a)(3)(i))

"Individualized education program" or "IEP" means a written statement for a child with a disability that is developed, reviewed, and revised in a team meeting in accordance with this chapter. The IEP specifies the individual educational needs of the child and what special education and related services are necessary to meet the child's educational needs. (34 CFR 300.22)

"Individualized education program team" means a group of individuals described in 8VAC20-81-110 that is responsible for developing, reviewing, or revising an IEP for a child with a disability. (34 CFR 300.23)

"Individualized family service plan (IFSP) under Part C of the Act" means a written plan for providing early intervention services to an infant or toddler with a disability eligible under Part C and to the child's family. (34 CFR 303.24; 20 USC § 636)

"Infant and toddler with a disability" means a child, ages birth to two, inclusive, whose birthday falls on or before September 30, or who is eligible to receive services in the Part C early intervention system up to age three, and who: (§ 2.2-5300 of the Code of Virginia; 34 CFR 300.25)

1. Has delayed functioning:

- 2. Manifests atypical development or behavior;
- 3. Has behavioral disorders that interfere with acquisition of developmental skills; or
- 4. Has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in delay, even though no current delay exists.

"Informed parental consent": see "Consent."

"Initial placement" means the first placement for the child to receive special education and related services in either a local educational agency, other educational service agency, or other public agency or institution for the purpose of providing special education or related services.

"Intellectual disability" means the definition formerly known as "mental retardation" and means significantly subaverage general intellectual functioning, existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior and manifested during the developmental period that adversely affects a child's educational performance. (34 CFR 300.8(c)(6))

"Interpreting services" as used with respect to children who are deaf or hard of hearing, means services provided by personnel who meet the qualifications set forth under 8VAC20-81-40 and includes oral transliteration services, cued speech/language transliteration services, sign language transliteration and interpreting services, and transcription services, such as communication access real-time translation (CART), C-Print, and TypeWell and interpreting services for children who are deaf-blind. A child who is not deaf or hard of hearing, but who has language deficits, may receive interpreting services as directed by the child's Individualized Education Program. (Regulations Governing Interpreter Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing 22VAC20-30; 34 CFR 300.34(c)(4)(i))

"Least restrictive environment" (LRE) means that to the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, are educated with children who are not disabled, and that special classes, separate schooling or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only when the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. (34 CFR 300.114 through 34 CFR 300.120)

"Level I services" means the provision of special education to children with disabilities for less than 50% of their instructional school day (excluding intermission for meals). The time that a child receives special education services is calculated on the basis of special education services described in the individualized education program, rather than the location of services.

"Level II services" means the provision of special education to children with disabilities for 50% or more of the instructional school day (excluding intermission for meals). The time that a child receives special education services is calculated on the basis of special education services described in the individualized education program, rather than the location of services.

"Limited English proficient" when used with respect to an individual means an individual: (20 USC § 7801(25); 34 CFR 300.27)

- 1. Who is aged two through 21;
- 2. Who is enrolled or preparing to enroll in an elementary school or secondary school; or
- 3. Who:

- a. Was not born in the United States or whose native language is a language other than English;
- b. Is a Native American or Alaska Native, or a native resident of the outlying areas, and comes from an environment where a language other than English has had a significant impact on the individual's level of English language proficiency; or
- c. Is migratory, whose native language is a language other than English, and who comes from an environment where a language other than English is dominant; and
- 4. Whose difficulties in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language may be sufficient to deny the individual:
 - a. The ability to meet Virginia's proficient level of achievement on Virginia's assessments;
 - b. The ability to successfully achieve in classrooms where the language of instruction is English; or
 - c. The opportunity to participate fully in society.

"Local educational agency" means a local school division governed by a local school board, a state-operated program that is funded and administered by the Commonwealth of Virginia or the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind at Staunton. Neither state-operated programs nor the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind at Staunton are considered a school division as that term is used in these regulations. (§ 22.1-346 C of the Code of Virginia; 34 CFR 300.28)

"Long-term placement" if used in reference to state-operated programs as outlined in 8VAC20-81-30 H means those hospital placements that are not expected to change in status or condition because of the child's medical needs.

"Manifestation determination review" means a process to review all relevant information and the relationship between the child's disability and the behavior subject to the disciplinary action.

"Medical services" means services provided by a licensed physician or nurse practitioner to determine a child's medically related disability that results in the child's need for special education and related services. (§ 22.1-270 of the Code of Virginia; 34 CFR 300.34(c)(5))

"Mental retardation" - see "Intellectual disability."

"Multiple disabilities" means simultaneous impairments (such as intellectual disability with blindness, intellectual disability with orthopedic impairment), the combination of which causes such severe educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for one of the impairments. The term does not include deaf-blindness. (34 CFR 300.8(c)(7))

"National Instructional Materials Access Center" or "NIMAC" means the national center established to do the following: (34 CFR 300.172)

- 1. Receive and maintain a catalog of print instructional materials prepared in the NIMAS, as established by the U.S. Secretary of Education, made available to such center by the textbook publishing industry, state educational agencies, and local educational agencies;
- 2. Provide access to print instructional materials, including textbooks, in accessible media, free of charge, to blind or other persons with print disabilities in elementary schools and secondary schools, in accordance with such terms and procedures as the NIMAC may prescribe; and
- 3. Develop, adopt and publish procedures to protect against copyright infringement, with respect to print instructional materials provided in accordance with the Act.

"National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard" or "NIMAS" means the standard established by the United States Secretary of Education to be used in the preparation of electronic files suitable and used solely for efficient conversion of print instructional materials into specialized formats. (34 CFR 300.172)

"Native language" if used with reference to an individual of limited English proficiency, means the language normally used by that individual, or, in the case of a child, the language normally used by the parent of the child, except in all direct contact with a child (including evaluation of the child), the language normally used by the child in the home or learning environment. For an individual with deafness or blindness, or for an individual with no written language, the mode of communication is that normally used by the individual (such as sign language, Braille, or oral communication). (34 CFR 300.29)

"Nonacademic services and extracurricular services" may include counseling services, athletics, transportation, health services, recreational activities, special interest groups or clubs sponsored by the local educational agency, referrals to agencies that provide assistance to individuals with disabilities, and employment of students, including both employment by the local educational agency and assistance in making outside employment available. (34 CFR 300.107(b))

"Notice" means written statements in English or in the primary language of the home of the parent, or, if the language or other mode of communication of the parent is not a written language, oral communication in the primary language of the home of the parent. If an individual is deaf or blind, or has no written language, the mode of communication would be that normally used by the individual (such as sign language, Braille, or oral communication). (34 CFR 300.503(c))

"Occupational therapy" means services provided by a qualified occupational therapist or services provided under the direction or supervision of a qualified occupational therapist and includes: (Regulations Governing the Licensure of Occupational Therapists (18VAC85-80-10 et seq.); 34 CFR 300.34(c)(6))

- 1. Improving, developing, or restoring functions impaired or lost through illness, injury, or deprivation;
- 2. Improving ability to perform tasks for independent functioning if functions are impaired or lost; and
- 3. Preventing, through early intervention, initial or further impairment or loss of function.

"Orientation and mobility services" means services provided to blind or visually impaired children by qualified personnel to enable those children to attain systematic orientation to and safe movement within their environments in school, home, and community; and includes travel training instruction, and teaching children the following, as appropriate: (34 CFR 300.34(c)(7))

- 1. Spatial and environmental concepts and use of information received by the senses (e.g., sound, temperature, and vibrations) to establish, maintain, or regain orientation and line of travel (e.g., using sound at a traffic light to cross the street);
- 2. To use the long cane or service animal to supplement visual travel skills or as a tool for safely negotiating the environment for students with no available travel vision;
- 3. To understand and use remaining vision and distance low vision aids; and
- 4. Other concepts, techniques, and tools.

"Orthopedic impairment" means a severe orthopedic impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term includes impairments caused by congenital anomaly, impairments caused by disease (e.g., poliomyelitis, bone tuberculosis, etc.), and impairments from other causes (e.g., cerebral palsy, amputations, and fractures or burns that cause contractures). (34 CFR 300.8(c)(8))

"Other health impairment" means having limited strength, vitality or alertness, including a heightened alertness to environmental stimuli, that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment, that is due to chronic or acute health problems such as asthma, attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, diabetes, epilepsy, a heart condition, hemophilia, lead poisoning, leukemia, nephritis, rheumatic fever, and sickle cell anemia and Tourette syndrome that adversely affects a child's educational performance. (34 CFR 300.8(c)(9))

"Paraprofessional," also known as paraeducator, means an appropriately trained employee who assists and is supervised by qualified professional staff in meeting the requirements of this chapter. (34 CFR 300.156(b)(2)(iii))

"Parent" means: (§ 20-124.6 and § 22.1-213.1 of the Code of Virginia; 34 CFR 99.4 and 34 CFR 300.30)

- 1. Persons who meet the definition of "parent":
 - a. A biological or adoptive parent of a child;
 - b. A foster parent, even if the biological or adoptive parent's rights have not been terminated, but subject to subdivision 8 of this definition;
 - c. A guardian generally authorized to act as the child's parent, or authorized to make educational decisions for the child (but not a guardian ad litem, or the state if the child is a ward of the state);
 - d. An individual acting in the place of a biological or adoptive parent (including a grandparent, stepparent, or other relative) with whom the child lives, or an individual who is legally responsible for the child's welfare;
 - e. If no party qualified under subdivisions 1 a through 1 d of this definition can be identified, or those parties are unwilling to act as parent, a surrogate parent who has been appointed in accordance with requirements detailed under 8VAC20-81-220; or
 - f. A minor who is emancipated under § 16.1-333 of the Code of Virginia.
- 2. If a judicial decree or order identifies a specific person under subdivisions 1 a through 1 e of this subsection to act as the "parent" of a child or to make educational decisions on behalf of a child, then such person shall be determined to be the "parent" for purposes of this definition.

- 3. "Parent" does not include local or state agencies or their agents, including local departments of social services, even if the child is in the custody of such an agency.
 - 4. The biological or adoptive parent, when attempting to act as the parent under this chapter and when more than one party is qualified under this section to act as a parent, shall be presumed to be the parent for purposes of this section unless the biological or adoptive parent's or parents' authority to make educational decisions on the child's behalf has been extinguished pursuant to § 16.1-277.01, 16.1-277.02, or 16.1-283 of the Code of Virginia or a comparable law in another state.
 - 5. Noncustodial parents whose parental rights have not been terminated are entitled to all parent rights and responsibilities available under this chapter, including access to their child's records.
 - 6. Custodial stepparents have the right to access the child's record. Noncustodial stepparents do not have the right to access the child's record.
 - 7. A validly married minor who has not pursued emancipation under § 16.1-333 of the Code of Virginia may assert implied emancipation based on the minor's marriage record and, thus, assumes responsibilities of "parent" under this chapter.
 - 8. The local educational agency shall provide written notice to the biological or adoptive parents at their last known address that a foster parent is acting as the parent under this section, and the local educational agency is entitled to rely upon the actions of the foster parent under this section until such time that the biological or adoptive parent attempts to act as the parent.

"Parent counseling and training" means assisting parents in understanding the special needs of their child, providing parents with information about child development, and helping parents to acquire the necessary skills that will allow them to support the implementation of their child's IEP or IFSP. (34 CFR 300.34(c)(8))

"Participating agency" means a state or local agency (including a Comprehensive Services Act team), other than the local educational agency responsible for a student's education, that is financially and legally responsible for providing transition services to the student. The term also means any agency or institution that collects, maintains, or uses personally identifiable information, or from which information is obtained under Part B of the Act. (34 CFR 300.611(c), 34 CFR 300.324(c) and 34 CFR 300.321(b)(3))

"Personally identifiable" means information that contains the following: (34 CFR 300.32)

- 1. The name of the child, the child's parent, or other family member;
- 2. The address of the child:
- 3. A personal identifier, such as the child's social security number or student number; or
- 4. A list of personal characteristics or other information that would make it possible to identify the child with reasonable certainty.

"Physical education" means the development of: (34 CFR 300.39(b)(2))

- 1. Physical and motor fitness:
- 2. Fundamental motor skills and patterns; and
- 3. Skills in aquatics, dance, and individual and group games and sports (including intramural and lifetime sports). The term includes special physical education, adapted physical education, movement education, and motor development.

"Physical therapy" means services provided by a qualified physical therapist or under the direction or supervision of a qualified physical therapist upon medical referral and direction. (Regulations Governing the Practice of Physical Therapy, 18VAC112-20; 34 CFR 300.34(c)(9))

"Private school children with disabilities" means children with disabilities enrolled by their parent in private, including religious, schools or facilities that meet the definition of elementary school or secondary school as defined in this section other than children with disabilities who are placed in a private school by a local school division or a Comprehensive Services Act team in accordance with 8VAC20-81-150. (34 CFR 300.130)

"Program" means the special education and related services, including accommodations, modifications, supplementary aids and services, as determined by a child's individualized education program.

"Psychological services" means those services provided by a qualified psychologist or under the direction or supervision of a qualified psychologist, including: (34 CFR 300.34(c)(10))

- 1. Administering psychological and educational tests, and other assessment procedures;
- 2. Interpreting assessment results;

- 3. Obtaining, integrating, and interpreting information about child behavior and conditions relating to learning;
- 4. Consulting with other staff members in planning school programs to meet the special needs of children as indicated by psychological tests, interviews, direct observation, and behavioral evaluations;
- 5. Planning and managing a program of psychological services, including psychological counseling for children and parents; and
- 6. Assisting in developing positive behavioral intervention strategies.

"Public expense" means that the local educational agency either pays for the full cost of the service or evaluation or ensures that the service or evaluation is otherwise provided at no cost to the parent. (34 CFR 300.502(a)(3)(ii))

"Public notice" means the process by which certain information is made available to the general public. Public notice procedures may include newspaper advertisements, radio announcements, television features and announcements, handbills, brochures, electronic means, and other methods that are likely to succeed in providing information to the public.

"Qualified person who has a disability" means a "qualified handicapped person" as defined in the federal regulations implementing the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. (29 USC § 701 et seq.)

"Recreation" includes: (34 CFR 30.34(c)(11))

- 1. Assessment of leisure function:
- 2. Therapeutic recreation services;
- 3. Recreation program in schools and community agencies; and
- 4. Leisure education.

"Reevaluation" means completion of a new evaluation in accordance with this chapter. (34 CFR 300.303)

"Rehabilitation counseling services" means services provided by qualified personnel in individual or group sessions that focus specifically on career development, employment preparation, achieving independence, and integration in the workplace and community of a student with a disability. The term also includes vocational rehabilitation services provided to students with disabilities by vocational rehabilitation programs funded under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC § 701 et seq.), as amended. (34 CFR 300.34(c)(12))

"Related services" means transportation and such developmental, corrective, and other supportive services as are required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education and includes speech-language pathology and audiology services; interpreting services;

psychological services; physical and occupational therapy; recreation, including therapeutic recreation; early identification and assessment of disabilities in children; counseling services, including rehabilitation counseling; orientation and mobility services; and medical services for diagnostic or evaluation purposes. Related services also includes school health services and school nurse services; social work services in schools; and parent counseling and training. Related services do not include a medical device that is surgically implanted including cochlear implants, the optimization of device functioning (e.g., mapping), maintenance of the device, or the replacement of that device. The list of related services is not exhaustive and may include other developmental, corrective, or supportive services (such as artistic and cultural programs, and art, music and dance therapy), if they are required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education. (§ 22.1-213 of the Code of Virginia; 34 CFR 300.34(a) and (b))

Nothing in this section:

- 1. Limits the right of a child with a surgically implanted device (e.g., cochlear implant) to receive related services that are determined by the IEP team to be necessary for the child to receive FAPE:
- 2. Limits the responsibility of a public agency to appropriately monitor and maintain medical devices that are needed to maintain the health and safety of the child, including breathing, nutrition, or operation of other bodily functions, while the child is transported to and from school or is at school; or
- 3. Prevents the routine checking of an external component of a surgically implanted device to make sure it is functioning properly.

"School day" means any day, including a partial day, that children are in attendance at school for instructional purposes. The term has the same meaning for all children in school, including children with and without disabilities. (34 CFR 300.11)

"School health services and school nurse services" means health services that are designed to enable a child with a disability to receive FAPE as described in the child's IEP. School nurse services are services provided by a qualified school nurse. School health services are services that may be provided by either a qualified school nurse or other qualified person. (Chapter 30 (§ 54.1-3000 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia; 34 CFR 300.34(c)(13))

"Scientifically based research" means research that involves the application of rigorous, systematic, and objective procedures to obtain reliable and valid knowledge relevant to education activities and programs and includes research that: (20 USC § 9501(18); 34 CFR 300.35)

- 1. Employs systematic, empirical methods that draw on observation or experiment;
- 2. Involves rigorous data analyses that are adequate to test the stated hypotheses and justify the general conclusions drawn;
- 3. Relies on measurements or observational methods that provide reliable and valid data across evaluators and observers, across multiple measurements and observations, and across studies by the same or different investigators;
- 4. Is evaluated using experimental or quasi-experimental designs in which individuals, entities, programs, or activities are assigned to different conditions and with appropriate controls to evaluate the effects of the condition of interest, with a preference for random-assignment experiments, or other designs to the extent that those designs contain within-condition or across-condition controls;
- 5. Ensures that experimental studies are presented in sufficient detail and clarity to allow for replication or, at a minimum, offer the opportunity to build systematically on their findings; and
- 6. Has been accepted by a peer-reviewed journal or approved by a panel of independent experts through a comparably rigorous, objective, and scientific review.

"Screening" means those processes that are used routinely with all children to identify previously unrecognized needs and that may result in a referral for special education and related services or other referral or intervention.

"Section 504" means that section of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, which is designed to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. (29 USC § 701 et seq.)

"Serious bodily injury" means bodily injury that involves substantial risk of death, extreme physical pain, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ or mental faculty. (18 USC § 1365(h)(3); 34 CFR 300.530(i)(3))

"Services plan" means a written statement that describes the special education and related services the local educational agency will provide to a parentally placed child with a disability enrolled in a private school who has been designated to receive services, including the location of the services and any transportation necessary, and is developed and implemented in accordance with 8VAC20-81-150. (34 CFR 300.37)

"Short term objectives" means measurable intermediate steps that enable an Individualized Education Program (IEP) team to monitor a student's progress toward achieving the annual goals.

"Social work services in schools" means those services provided by a school social worker or qualified visiting teacher, including: (Licensure Regulations for School Personnel, 8VAC20-22-660); 34 CFR 300.34(c)(14))

- 1. Preparing a social or developmental history on a child with a disability;
- 2. Group and individual counseling with the child and family;
- 3. Working in partnership with parents and others on those problems in a child's living situation (home, school, and community) that affect the child's adjustment in school;
- 4. Mobilizing school and community resources to enable the child to learn as effectively as possible in the child's educational program; and
- 5. Assisting in developing positive behavioral intervention strategies for the child.

A local educational agency, in its discretion, may expand the role of a school social worker or visiting teacher beyond those services identified in this definition, as long as the expansion is consistent with other state laws and regulations, including licensure.

"Special education" means specially designed instruction, at no cost to the parent, to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability, including instruction conducted in a classroom, in the home, in hospitals, in institutions, and in other settings and instruction in physical education. The term includes each of the following if it meets the requirements of the definition of special education: (§ 22.1-213 of the Code of Virginia; 34 CFR 300.39)

- 1. Speech-language pathology services or any other related service, if the service is considered special education rather than a related service under state standards;
- 2. Vocational education; and
- 3. Travel training.

"Special education hearing officer" has the same meaning as the term "impartial hearing officer" as that term is used in the Act and its federal implementing regulations.

"Specially designed instruction" means adapting, as appropriate to the needs of an eligible child under this chapter, the content, methodology, or delivery of instruction: (34 CFR 300.39(b)(3))

1. To address the unique needs of the child that result from the child's disability; and

2. To ensure access of the child to the general curriculum, so that the child can meet the educational standards that apply to all children within the jurisdiction of the local educational agency.

"Specific learning disability" means a disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself in the imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell or to do mathematical calculations, including conditions such as perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia, and developmental aphasia.

Specific learning disability does not include learning problems that are primarily the result of visual, hearing, or motor disabilities; of intellectual disabilities; of emotional disabilities; of environmental, cultural, or economic disadvantage. (§ 22.1-213 of the Code of Virginia; 34 CFR 300.8(c)(10))

Dyslexia is distinguished from other learning disabilities due to its weakness occurring at the phonological level. Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge.

"Speech or language impairment" means a communication disorder, such as stuttering, impaired articulation, expressive or receptive language impairment, or voice impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance. (34 CFR 300.8(c)(11))

"Speech-language pathology services" means the following: (34 CFR 300.34(c)(15))

- 1. Identification of children with speech or language impairments;
- 2. Diagnosis and appraisal of specific speech or language impairments;
- 3. Referral for medical or other professional attention necessary for the habilitation of speech or language impairments;
- 4. Provision of speech and language services for the habilitation or prevention of communicative impairments; and
- 5. Counseling and guidance of parents, children, and teachers regarding speech and language impairments.

"State assessment program" means the state assessment program in Virginia under the Act that is the component of the state assessment system used for accountability.

"State educational agency" means the Virginia Department of Education. (34 CFR 300.41)

"State-operated programs" means programs that provide educational services to children and youth who reside in facilities according to the admissions policies and procedures of those facilities that are the responsibility of state boards, agencies, or institutions. (§§ 22.1-7, 22.1-340 and 22.1-345 of the Code of Virginia)

"Supplementary aids and services" means aids, services, and other supports that are provided in general education classes or other education-related settings to enable children with disabilities to be educated with children without disabilities to the maximum extent appropriate in accordance with this chapter. (34 CFR 300.42)

"Surrogate parent" means a person appointed in accordance with procedures set forth in this chapter to ensure that children are afforded the protection of procedural safeguards and the provision of a free appropriate public education. (34 CFR 300.519)

"Timely manner" if used with reference to the requirement for National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard means that the local educational agency shall take all reasonable steps to provide instructional materials in accessible formats to children with disabilities who need those instructional materials at the same time as other children receive instructional materials. (34 CFR 300.172(b)(4))

"Transition from Part C (Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities) services" means the steps identified in the Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP) to be taken to support the transition of the child to: (34 CFR 300.124)

- 1. Early childhood special education to the extent that those services are appropriate; or
- 2. Other services that may be available, if appropriate.

"Transition services" if used with reference to secondary transition means a coordinated set of activities for a student with a disability that is designed within a results-oriented process that: (34 CFR 300.43)

- 1. Is focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the child with a disability to facilitate the child's movement from school to post-school activities, including postsecondary education, vocational education, integrated employment (including supported employment), continuing and adult education, adult services, independent living, or community participation.
- 2. Is based on the individual child's needs, taking into account the child's strengths, preferences, and interests and includes instruction, related services, community experiences, the development of employment and other post-school adult living objectives and, if appropriate, acquisition of daily living skills and functional vocational evaluation.

Transition services for students with disabilities may be special education, if provided as specially designed instruction, or related services, if they are required to assist a student with a disability to benefit from special education.

"Transportation" includes: (34 CFR 300.34(c)(16))

- 1. Travel to and from school and between schools;
- 2. Travel in and around school buildings; and
- 3. Specialized equipment (such as special or adapted buses, lifts, and ramps), if required to provide special transportation for a child with a disability.

"Traumatic brain injury" means an acquired injury to the brain caused by an external physical force or by other medical conditions, including stroke, anoxia, infectious disease, aneurysm, brain tumors, and neurological insults resulting from medical or surgical treatments, resulting in total or partial functional disability or psychosocial impairment, or both, that adversely affects a child's educational performance. Traumatic brain injury applies to open or closed head injuries resulting in impairments in one or more areas, such as cognition; language; memory; attention; reasoning; abstract thinking; judgment; problem-solving; sensory, perceptual, and motor abilities; psychosocial behavior; physical functions; information processing; and speech. Traumatic brain injury does not apply to brain injuries that are congenital or degenerative, or to brain injuries induced by birth trauma. (34 CFR 300.8(c)(12))

"Travel training" means providing instruction, as appropriate, to children with significant cognitive disabilities, and any other children with disabilities who require this instruction, to enable them to: (34 CFR 300.39(b)(4))

- 1. Develop an awareness of the environment in which they live; and
- 2. Learn the skills necessary to move effectively and safely from place to place within that environment (e.g., in school, in the home, at work, and in the community).

"Universal design" has the meaning given the term in § 3 of the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as amended, 29 USC § 3002. The term "universal design" means a concept or philosophy for designing and delivering products and services that are usable by people with the widest possible range of functional capabilities, which include products and services that are directly usable (without requiring assistive technologies) and products and services that are made usable with assistive technologies. (34 CFR 300.44)

"Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind at Staunton" means the Virginia school under the operational control of the Virginia Board of Education. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall approve the education programs of this school. (§ 22.1-346 of the Code of Virginia)

"Visual impairment including blindness" means an impairment in vision that, even with correction, adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term includes both partial sight and blindness. (34 CFR 300.8(c)(13))

"Vocational education," for the purposes of special education, means organized educational programs that are directly related to the preparation of individuals for paid or unpaid employment or for additional preparation for a career not requiring a baccalaureate or advanced degree, and includes career and technical education. (34 CFR 300.39(b)(5))

"Ward of the state" means a child who, as determined by the state where the child resides is: (34 CFR 300.45)

1. A foster child;

- 2. A ward of the state; or
- 3. In the custody of a public child welfare agency.

"Ward of the state" does not include a foster child who has a foster parent who meets the definition of a "parent."

"Weapon" means dangerous weapon under 18 USC § 930(g)(2). (34 CFR 530(i)(4))

8VAC20-81-110. Individualized education program.

- A. Responsibility. The local educational agency shall ensure that an IEP is developed and implemented for each child with a disability served by that local educational agency, including a child placed in a private special education school by: (34 CFR 300.112)
 - 1. A local school division: or
 - 2. A noneducational placement by a Comprehensive Services Act team that includes the school division. The local school division's responsibility is limited to special education and related services.
 - B. Accountability.
 - 1. At the beginning of each school year, each local educational agency shall have an IEP in effect for each child with a disability within its jurisdiction, with the exception of children placed in a private school by parents when a free appropriate public education is not at issue. (34 CFR 300.323(a))
 - 2. Each local educational agency shall ensure that an IEP: (34 CFR 300.323(c))
 - a. Is in effect before special education and related services are provided to an eligible child:
 - b. Is developed within 30 calendar days of the date of the initial determination that the child needs special education and related services;
 - c. Is developed within 30 calendar days of the date the eligibility group determines that the child remains eligible for special education and related services following reevaluation, if the IEP team determines that changes are needed to the child's IEP, or if the parent requests it; and

a. The child's IEP is accessible to each regular education teacher, special education 881 teacher, related service provider, and other service provider who is responsible for its 882 implementation; and 883 b. Teachers and providers are informed of: 884 (1) Their specific responsibilities related to implementing the child's IEP: and 885 (2) The specific accommodations, modifications, and supports that shall be provided 886 for the child in accordance with the IEP. 887 888 4. Each local educational agency is responsible for initiating and conducting meetings to develop, review, and revise the IEP of a child with a disability. 889 5. Each local educational agency shall ensure that the IEP team reviews the child's IEP 890 periodically, but not less than annually, to determine whether the annual goals are being 891 achieved and to revise its provisions, as appropriate, to address: (34 CFR 300.324(b)) 892 a. Any lack of expected progress toward the annual goals and in the general 893 curriculum, if appropriate; 894 895 b. The results of any reevaluation conducted under this chapter; 896 c. Information about the child provided to or by the parent; d. The child's anticipated needs; or 897 e. Other matters. 898 6. Each local educational agency shall provide special education and related services to 899 a child with a disability in accordance with the child's IEP. (34 CFR 300.323(c)(2)) 900 7. Nothing in this section limits a parent's right to ask for revisions of the child's IEP if the 901 902 parent feels that the efforts required by this chapter are not being met. 8. To the extent possible, the local educational agency shall encourage the consolidation 903 of reevaluation and IEP team meetings for the child. (34 CFR 300.324(a)(5)) 904 905 9. In making changes to a child's IEP after the annual IEP team meeting for the school year, the parent and the local educational agency may agree not to convene an IEP team 906 meeting for the purposes of making those changes, and instead may develop a written 907 document to amend or modify the child's current IEP. (34 CFR 300.324(a)(4) and (6)) 908 a. If changes are made to the child's IEP, the local educational agency shall ensure 909 910 that the child's IEP team is informed of those changes. b. Upon request, a parent shall be provided with a revised copy of the IEP with the 911 amendments incorporated. 912 913 c. This meeting is not a substitute for the required annual IEP meeting. 914 C. IEP team. 1. General. The local educational agency shall ensure that the IEP team for each child 915 with a disability includes: (34 CFR 300.321(a), (c) and (d)) 916 a. The parent of the child: 917 b. Not less than one regular education teacher of the child (if the child is or may be 918 919 participating in the regular educational environment); c. Not less than one special education teacher of the child or, if appropriate, not less 920 than one special education provider of the child. For a child whose only disability is 921

speech-language impairment, the special education provider shall be the speech-

d. Is implemented as soon as possible following parental consent to the IEP.

3. Each local educational agency shall ensure that: (34 CFR 300.323(d))

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language pathologist;

- d. A representative of the local educational agency who is:

 (1) Qualified to provide or supervise the provision of specially designed instruction to meet the unique needs of children with disabilities;

 (2) Knowledgeable about the general education curriculum; and

 (3) Knowledgeable about the availability of resources of the local education agency. A local educational agency may designate another member of the IEP team to serve
 - e. An individual who can interpret the instructional implications of evaluation results. This individual may be a member of the team serving in another capacity, other than the parent of the child:

simultaneously as the agency representative if the individual meets the above criteria;

- f. At the discretion of the parent or local educational agency, other individuals who have knowledge or special expertise regarding the child, including related services personnel, as appropriate. The determination of knowledge or special expertise of any individual shall be made by the party (parent or local educational agency) who invited the individual to be a member of the team; and
- g. Whenever appropriate, the child.
- 2. The local educational agency determines the school personnel to fill the roles of the required IEP team members in subdivisions 1 b through 1 e of this subsection.
- 3. Secondary transition service participants. (34 CFR 300.321(b))
 - a. The local educational agency shall invite a student with a disability of any age to attend the student's IEP meeting if a purpose of the meeting will be the consideration of:
 - (1) The student's postsecondary goals;
 - (2) The needed transition services for the student; or
 - (3) Both.

- b. If the student does not attend the IEP meeting, the local educational agency shall take other steps to ensure that the student's preferences and interests are considered.
- c. To the extent appropriate and with the consent of the parent or a child who has reached the age of majority, the local educational agency shall invite a representative of any participating agency that is likely to be responsible for providing or paying for transition services. If an agency invited to send a representative to a meeting does not do so, the local educational agency shall take other steps to obtain the participation of the other agency in the planning of any transition services.
- 4. Part C transition participants. In the case of a child who was previously served under Part C of the Act, the local educational agency shall, at the parent's request, invite the Part C service coordinator or other representatives of the Part C system to the initial IEP meeting to assist with the smooth transition of services. (34 CFR 300.321(f))
- D. IEP team attendance. (34 CFR 300.321(e))
 - 1. A required member of the IEP team described in subdivisions C 1 b through C 1 e of this section is not required to attend an IEP team meeting, in whole or in part, if the parent and the local educational agency agree, in writing, that the attendance of this member is not necessary because the member's area of the curriculum or related services is not being modified or discussed in the meeting.
 - 2. A required member of the IEP team may be excused from attending the IEP team meeting, in whole or in part, when the meeting involves a modification to or discussion of the member's area of curriculum or related services, if:

- a. The parent and the local educational agency consent in writing to the excusal; and

b. The member submits, in writing, to the parent and the IEP team input into the development of the IEP prior to the meeting.

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E. Parent participation.

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- - 1. Each local educational agency shall take steps to ensure that one or both of the parents of the child with a disability are present at each IEP meeting or are afforded the opportunity to participate including: (34 CFR 300.322(a))
 - a. Notifying the parent of the meeting early enough to ensure that they will have an opportunity to attend; and
 - b. Scheduling the meeting at a mutually agreed on time and place.
 - 2. Notice. (34 CFR 300.322(b))
 - a. General notice. The notice given to the parent:
 - (1) May be in writing, or given by telephone or in person with proper documentation;
 - (2) Shall indicate the purpose, date, time, and location of the meeting, and who will be in attendance: and
 - (3) Shall inform the parent of the provisions relating to the participation of other individuals on the IEP team who have knowledge or special expertise about the child under subdivision C 1 f of this section.
 - b. Additional notice requirements are provided if transition services are under consideration.
 - (1) For Part C transition, the notice shall inform the parents of the provisions relating to the participation of the Part C service coordinator or other representative of the Part C system under subdivision C 4 of this section.
 - (2) For secondary transition, the notice shall also:
 - (a) Indicate that a purpose of the meeting will be the consideration of the postsecondary goals and transition services for the child;
 - (b) Indicate that the local educational agency will invite the student; and
 - (c) Identify any other agency that will be invited to send a representative.
 - 3. If neither parent can attend, the local educational agency shall use other methods to ensure parent participation, including individual or conference telephone calls and audio conferences. If the local educational agency uses an alternative means of meeting participation that results in additional costs, the local educational agency is responsible for those costs. (34 CFR 300.322(c))
 - 4. A meeting may be conducted without a parent in attendance if the local educational agency is unable to convince the parent that they should attend. In this case, the local educational agency shall have a record of the attempts to arrange a mutually agreed on time and place, such as: (34 CFR 300.322(d))
 - a. Detailed records of telephone calls made or attempted and the results of those calls;
 - b. Copies of correspondence (written, electronic, or facsimile) sent to the parent and any responses received; or
 - c. Detailed records of visits made to the parent's home or place of employment and the results of those visits.
 - 5. The local educational agency shall take whatever action is necessary to ensure that the parent understands the proceedings at the IEP meeting, including arranging for an interpreter for parents with deafness or whose native language is other than English. (34 CFR 300.322(e))

- 6. At the IEP meeting, the IEP team shall provide the parent of a child with a disability with a written description of the factors in subdivisions F 1 and F 2 of this section that will be considered during the IEP meeting. The description shall be written in language understandable by the general public and provided in the native language of the parent or other mode of communication used by the parent(s), unless it is clearly not feasible to do so.
 - 7. The local educational agency shall give the parent a copy of the child's IEP at no cost to the parent at the IEP meeting, or within a reasonable period of time after the IEP meeting, not to exceed 10 calendar days. (34 CFR 300.322(f))
 - 8. If the local educational agency elects to use a draft version of an IEP in any IEP team meeting, such draft shall be developed and a copy shall be provided to the parent at least two business days in advance of the IEP meeting.
 - F. Development, review, and revision of the IEP. (34 CFR 300.324(a))
 - 1. In developing each child's IEP, the IEP team shall consider and document in the IEP:
 - a. The strengths of the child;

- b. The concerns of the parent (and child, whenever appropriate) for enhancing the education of their child;
- c. The results of the initial or most recent evaluation of the child; and
- d. The academic, developmental, and functional needs of the child.
- 2. The IEP team also shall: (34 CFR 300.324(a))
 - a. In the case of a child whose behavior impedes the child's learning or that of others, consider the use of positive behavioral interventions, strategies, and supports to address the behavior;
 - b. In the case of a child with limited English proficiency, consider the language needs of the child as those needs relate to the child's IEP:
 - c. In the case of a child who is blind or visually impaired, provide for instruction in Braille and the use of Braille unless the IEP team determines after an evaluation of the child's reading and writing skills, needs, and appropriate reading and writing media, including an evaluation of the child's future needs for instruction in Braille or the use of Braille, that instruction in Braille or the use of Braille is not appropriate for the child;
 - d. Consider the communication needs of the child;
 - e. Consider the child's needs for benchmarks or short-term objectives;
 - f. In the case of a child who is deaf or hard of hearing, consider the child's language and communication needs, opportunities for direct communications with peers and professional personnel in the child's language and communication mode, academic level, and full range of needs, including opportunities for direct instruction in the child's language and communication mode; and
 - g. Consider whether the child requires assistive technology devices and services.
- 3. If, in considering the special factors, the IEP team determines that a child needs a particular device or service, including an intervention, accommodation, or other program modification in order for the child to receive a free appropriate public education, the IEP team shall include a statement to that effect in the child's IEP. (34 CFR 300.324(b)(2))
- 4. The regular education teacher of a child with a disability, as a member of the IEP team, shall participate, to the extent appropriate, in the development, review, and revision of the child's IEP, including assisting in the determination of: (34 CFR 300.324(a)(3))

- a. Appropriate positive behavioral interventions and supports and other strategies for the child; and
 - b. Supplementary aids and services, accommodations, program modifications or supports for school personnel that will be provided for the child.
 - 5. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require: (34 CFR 300.320(d))
 - a. The IEP team to include information under one component of a child's IEP that is already contained under another component of the child's IEP; or
 - b. That additional information be included in the child's IEP beyond what is explicitly required in this chapter.
 - 6. The IEP team shall consider all factors identified under a free appropriate public education in 8VAC20-81-100, as appropriate, and work toward consensus. If the IEP team cannot reach consensus, the local educational agency shall provide the parent with prior written notice of the local educational agency's proposals or refusals, or both, regarding the child's educational placement or provision of a free appropriate public education in accordance with 8VAC20-81-170 C.
 - G. Content of the individualized education program. The IEP for each child with a disability shall include:
 - 1. A statement of the child's present levels of academic achievement and functional performance, including how the child's disability affects the child's involvement and progress in the general curriculum or, for preschool children, as appropriate, how the disability affects the child's participation in appropriate activities. (34 CFR 300.320(a)(1))
 - a. The statement shall be written in objective measurable terms, to the extent possible. Test scores, if appropriate, shall be self-explanatory or an explanation shall be included.
 - b. The present level of performance shall directly relate to the other components of the IEP.
 - 2. A statement of measurable annual goals, including academic and functional goals designed to: (34 CFR 300.320(a)(2))
 - a. Meet the child's needs that result from the child's disability to enable the child to be involved in and progress in the general curriculum, or for preschool children, as appropriate, to participate in appropriate activities; and
 - b. Meet each of the child's other educational needs that result from the child's disability.
 - 3. If determined appropriate by the IEP team, as outlined in subdivision F 2 of this section, a description of benchmarks or short-term objectives. For children with disabilities who take alternate assessments aligned to alternate achievement standards, the IEP shall include a description of benchmarks or short-term objectives. (34 CFR 300.320(a)(2))
 - The IEP team shall document its consideration of the inclusion in the child's IEP of benchmarks or short-term objectives.
 - 4. A statement of the special education and related services and supplementary aids and services, based on peer-reviewed research to the extent practicable, to be provided for the child, or on behalf of the child, and a statement of the program modifications or supports for school personnel that will be provided to enable the child: (34 CFR 300.320(a)(4))
 - a. To advance appropriately toward attaining the annual goals;
 - b. To be involved and progress in the general curriculum and to participate in extracurricular and other nonacademic activities; and

CFR 300.320(a)(5)) 1111 1112 6. The following information concerning state and divisionwide assessments shall be included: (34 CFR 300.320(a)(6)) 1113 a. A statement of any individual appropriate accommodations or modifications that are 1114 necessary to measure the child's academic achievement and functional performance. 1115 in accordance with the guidelines approved by the Board of Education, in the 1116 1117 administration of state assessments of student achievement that are needed in order for the child to participate in the assessment; 1118 b. If the IEP team determines that the child must take an alternate assessment instead 1119 1120 of a particular state assessment of student achievement (or part of an assessment), a 1121 statement of: 1122 (1) Why the child cannot participate in the regular assessment; (2) Why the particular assessment selected is appropriate for the child, including that 1123 the child meets the criteria for the alternate assessment; and 1124 1125 (3) How the child's nonparticipation in the assessment will impact the child's promotion: graduation with a modified standard, standard, or advanced studies diploma; or other 1126 1127 matters. 1128 c. A statement that the child shall participate in either a state assessment for all children that is part of the state assessment program or the state's alternate 1129 1130 d. A statement of any individual appropriate accommodations or modifications 1131 approved for use in the administration of divisionwide assessments of student 1132 achievement that are needed in order for the child to participate in the assessment; 1133 1134 e. If the IEP team determines that the child must take an alternate assessment instead of a particular divisionwide assessment of student achievement (or part of an 1135 assessment), a statement of: 1136 1137 (1) Why the child cannot participate in the regular assessment; 1138 (2) Why the particular alternate assessment selected is appropriate for the child; and (3) How the child's nonparticipation in the assessment will impact the child's courses; 1139 promotion; graduation with a modified standard, standard, or advanced studies 1140 diploma; or other matters. 1141 7. The projected dates (month, day, and year) for the beginning of the services and 1142 modifications and the anticipated frequency, location, and duration of those services and 1143 modifications. (34 CFR 300.320(a)(7)) 1144 8. A statement of: (34 CFR 300.320(a)(3)) 1145

a. How the child's progress toward the annual goals will be measured; and

parents are informed of the progress of their children without disabilities.

9. Initial transition services (34 CFR 300.101(b) and 34 CFR 300.323(b))

b. When periodic reports on the progress the child is making toward meeting the

annual goals will be provided; for example, through the use of quarterly or other

periodic reports, concurrent with the issuance of report cards, and at least as often as

c. To be educated and participate with other children with disabilities and children

5. An explanation of the extent, if any, to which the child will not participate with children

without disabilities in the regular class and in the activities described in this section. (34

without disabilities in the activities described in this section.

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- 1152 a. In the case of a preschool-aged child with a disability, age two (on or before September 30) through age five (on or before September 30), whose parent elect to 1153 1154 receive services under Part B of the Act, the local educational agency shall develop 1155 an IEP.
 - b. The IEP team shall consider an IFSP that contains the IFSP content described under Part C of the Act (§ 1431 et seq.) including:
 - (1) A statement regarding natural environments; and
 - (2) A component that promotes school readiness and incorporates pre-literacy, language, and numeracy skills.
 - c. These components of the child's IFSP may be incorporated into the child's IEP.
 - 10. Secondary transition services. (34 CFR 300.43 and 34 CFR 300.320(b))
 - a. Prior to the child entering secondary school but not later than the first IEP to be in effect when the child turns 14, or younger if determined appropriate by the IEP team, and updated annually thereafter, the IEP shall include age-appropriate:
 - (1) Measurable postsecondary goals based upon age-appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment, and where appropriate, independent living skills; and
 - (2) Transition services, including courses of study, needed to assist the child in reaching those goals. Transition services shall be based on the individual child's needs, taking into account the child's strengths, preferences, and interests.
 - b. Beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect when the child turns 16, or younger if determined appropriate by the IEP team, and updated annually, in addition to the requirements of subdivision 10 a of this subsection, the IEP shall also include a statement, if appropriate, of interagency responsibilities or any linkages.
 - c. For a child pursuing a modified standard diploma, the IEP team shall consider the child's need for occupational readiness upon school completion, including consideration of courses to prepare the child as a career and technical education program completer.
 - 11. Beginning at least one year before a student reaches the age of majority, the student's IEP shall include a statement that the student and parent have been informed of the rights under this chapter, if any, that will transfer to the student on reaching the age of majority. (34 CFR 300.320(c))
 - H. Agency responsibilities for secondary transition services. (34 CFR 300.324(c))
 - 1. If a participating agency, other than the local educational agency, fails to provide the transition services described in the IEP of a student with a disability, the local educational agency shall reconvene the IEP team to identify alternative strategies to meet the transition objectives for the student set out in the IEP.
 - 2. Nothing in this part relieves any participating agency, including a state vocational rehabilitation agency, of the responsibility to provide or pay for any transition service that the agency would otherwise provide to students with disabilities who meet the eligibility criteria of that agency.
 - I. Additional requirements for eligible students with disabilities in state, regional, or local adult or iuvenile correctional facilities. (34 CFR 300.324(d) and 34 CFR 300.102(a)(2); Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia (8VAC20-131))
 - 1. A representative of the state from a state, regional, or local adult or juvenile correctional facility may participate as a member of the IEP team.

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1198 2. All requirements regarding IEP development, review, and revision in this section apply to students with disabilities in state, regional, or local adult or juvenile correctional facilities, 1199 including assessment requirements to graduate with a modified standard, standard, or 1200 1201 advanced studies diploma. The requirements related to least restrictive environment in 8VAC20-81-130 do not apply. 1202 3. The following additional exceptions to subdivision 2 of this subsection apply only to 1203 1204

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- students with disabilities who are convicted as an adult under state law and incarcerated in adult prisons:
 - a. The IEP team may modify the student's IEP or placement if the state has demonstrated to the IEP team a bona fide security or compelling penological interest that cannot be otherwise accommodated.
 - b. IEP requirements regarding participation in state assessments, including alternate assessments, do not apply.
 - c. IEP requirements regarding transition planning and transition services do not apply to students whose eligibility for special education and related services will end because of their age before they will be eligible for release from the correctional facility based on consideration of their sentence and their eligibility for early release.