



Introduction

The parent(s) of a child with a disability have the right to obtain an independent educational evaluation of the child. Each public agency shall provide to parent(s), upon request for an independent educational evaluation, information about where an independent educational evaluation may be obtained, and the agency criteria applicable for independent educational evaluations. *Title 34 C.F.R. Section 300.502*

A parent has the right to an independent educational evaluation at public expense **ONLY** if the parent disagrees with an evaluation obtained by the public agency.



Consideration of Independent Educational Evaluations

An Independent Educational Evaluation is designed to determine the educational needs of a student with a disability. The district is responsible for determining placements and services; therefore, the district will consider recommendations designed to assist students in making educational progress in accordance with this policy. Independent Educational Evaluations will not control the decisions in the district's recommendations.

Working with the District in Making a Request for an Independent Educational Evaluation

If you are not in agreement with the District's evaluation, **you are not required by law**, but in the spirit of working to resolve the issues, may want to share specifically what questions or disagreements you have by following the district's hierarchy when resolving conflicts:

Site Level

- Teacher (Educational and classroom issues)
- Site Administrator (School Safety and Personnel Issues)
- School Psychologist (Behavior Issues, Program/Placement Issues)

District Level

- Coordinator/Program Specialist (Program Concerns)
- Special Education Administrator (Educational Issues, Program/Placement Issues)

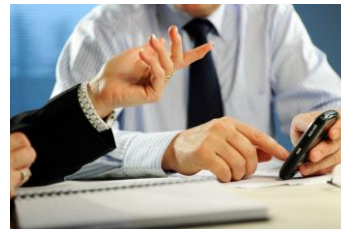
SELPA Level

- Intake Coordinator

District Responsibility

The District is not responsible for providing an IEE or reimbursing parents when they merely feel the need for additional information about their child. The District must consider a request for an IEE based on a disagreement with District assessment results or IEP team findings.

IF the parent disagrees with an assessment previously conducted by the District and obtains multiple IEE reports in the same assessment areas, the District is only required to reimburse the cost of one IEE in any one area assessed.



Who Conducts IEEs?

Upon request for an IEE, the District will provide information to parents regarding where an appropriate IEE may be obtained CFR 34 C.F.R.§ 300.502 (a)(2). This is not an exhaustive list and parents may ask to have another IEE examiner.

The IEE examiner must meet the same criteria and qualifications as the District's examiner to be obtained through public expense. 34 C.F.R.§ 300.502 (e).

The IEE examiner may not be employed by the school district where the student attends, but can be employed by a neighboring school district or county office of education.



Circumstances Resulting in Evaluations Not Funded at District Expense

The district does not have an obligation to reimburse parents for private evaluations obtained prior to the date that the district's evaluation is completed and discussed in an IEP meeting or prior to the parents' written disagreement with the district's evaluation. The district may reimburse parents for private evaluations outside of this policy in any one of three circumstances:

1. All of the following conditions have been met:
 - a) The parent disagreed with the district's evaluation in writing or at an IEP team meeting.
 - b) The private evaluation meets the district's criteria.
 - c) The parent provides the district with a copy of the written report and written consent to exchange information.
 - d) The examiner participates in the relevant IEP meeting by phone or in person to discuss the findings and provides copies of all protocols to the district.
2. The district's evaluation has not been provided in compliance with Federal and State laws.
3. The privately obtained evaluation appropriately assessed the student in an area of suspected disability, which was not assessed by the district.

Definitions

Assessment/Evaluation: The process of gathering information and identifying a student's strengths and educational needs through a variety of instruments and products; data used in making decisions regarding a student's eligibility for special education and IEP needs.

Independent Educational Evaluation: An evaluation conducted by a qualified examiner who is not employed by the public agency responsible for the education of the child in question.

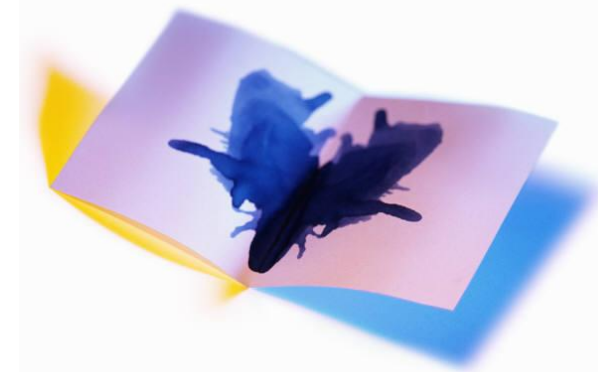


Public Expense: The public agency either pays for the full cost of the evaluation or ensures that the evaluation is otherwise provided at no cost to the parent.

Unilateral Parent Initiated Evaluation: An Independent Educational Evaluation obtained by the parent at private expense without prior approval of the school district. This may not be reimbursed as a public expense.

For further information regarding
Independent Educational
Evaluation, please contact your
local school district.

Alvord USD	(951) 509-5045
Banning USD	(951) 922-0224
Beaumont USD	(951) 845-1631 Ext. 5379
Coachella Valley USD	(760) 848-1135
Desert Center USD	(760) 392-7604
Desert Sands USD	(760) 771-8652
Empire Springs Charter School	(951) 225-7709
Harbor Springs Charter School	(951) 225-7709
Hemet USD	(951) 765-5100 Ext. 4001
Jurupa USD	(951) 360-4144
Lake Elsinore USD	(951) 253-7130
Menifee Union SD	(951) 672-1851 Ext. 49430
Murrieta Valley USD	(951) 696-1600 Ext.1020
Nuview Elementary SD	(951) 928-0066
Palm Springs USD	(760) 416-8402
Palo Verde USD	(760) 922-4164 Ext. 1242
Perris Elementary SD	(951) 940-4942
Perris Union High SD	(951) 943-6369 Ext. 81300
River Springs Charter School	(951) 225-7709
Romoland Elementary SD	(951) 926-9244 Ext. 1237
San Jacinto USD	(951) 929-7700 Ext. 4249
Santa Rosa Academy	(951) 672-2400 Ext. 1202
Val Verde USD	(951) 940-6104 Ext. 10434
Riverside County Ed Academy-Indio	(760) 863-3111
Riverside Co Ed Academy-Moreno Valley	(951) 826-4901
Riverside County Office of Ed	(951) 826-6476



INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION (IEE) GUIDELINES: A Brochure for Parents

Riverside County SELPA

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