

DODGELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Policy Manual

342.9-Rule

SECTION 504 IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

Definitions

For purpose of interpreting the District's policy regarding discrimination on the basis of handicap (Section 504), the following definitions are summarized:

1. "Handicap" is a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more life activities of a person. Any person who actually has such an impairment is a person with a "handicap" under these procedures.
2. "Qualified handicapped person" is a person with a handicap who, with respect to:
 - a. Public preschool, elementary, secondary, or adult educational services, is of an age during which non handicapped persons are provided such services, or is of any age during which it is mandatory under state law to provide such services to handicapped persons, or to whom a state is required to provide a free appropriate public education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act;
 - b. Vocational educational services, meets the academic and technical standards requisite to admission or participation in the program or activity; and
 - c. All other services, meets the essential eligibility requirements for the receipt of such services.
3. "Free appropriate public education" is an educational program or activity operated by the District that is designed to meet individual educational needs of qualified handicapped persons as adequately as the needs of non-handicapped persons are met by the District and:
 - a. Is conducted in the regular school environment, as programs and activities for non-handicapped persons are, unless the District can demonstrate that education of the qualified handicapped person in the regular school environment with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.
 - b. Includes provisions for testing and evaluation of qualified handicapped persons under validated standards and procedures that accurately reflect aptitude or achievement level.
 - c. Operates in conjunction with a system of procedural safeguards to ensure proper placement of each qualified handicapped person.

Education Program

1. The District shall formulate an outreach program that annually shall:
 - a. Attempt to identify and locate every qualified handicapped person residing within the District who is not receiving a public education, and,
 - b. Notify such persons or their parents/guardians of the right to a free appropriate education.
2. The District shall provide a free appropriate public education to each qualified handicapped person residing in the school district, including providing free transportation to and from home and school as determined necessary. Where such education is residential placement, the program, including non-medical care and room and board, shall be provided free.
3. The District shall formulate evaluation procedures for the best placement of handicapped persons in educational programs. To the maximum extent possible, such placement shall be in the regular educational environment. Such procedures also shall

require periodic reevaluations and a process for appeal by which a handicapped person or his/her parents/guardians can have placement to which they object reviewed by the District Administrator.

4. All nonacademic and extra-curricular services and activities also shall be made available to handicapped students, including, but not limited to, counseling, physical education, health services, clubs and recreation. Nonacademic and extra-curricular services shall be offered to handicapped students on an equal opportunity basis with other students.
5. Qualified handicapped persons shall not be excluded on the basis of handicap from preschool or adult education programs or activities. Such programs and activities shall take into account the needs of qualified handicapped persons.

Facilities

1. No qualified handicapped person shall be denied the benefits of, be excluded from participation in, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in any school district program on the basis that school district facilities are inaccessible to or unusable by handicapped persons.
2. As to existing facilities, the District shall conduct its programs or activities so that, when viewed in their entirety, they are readily accessible to handicapped persons. While the District is not required to make every facility accessible to handicapped persons, careful planning should be done so that handicapped persons may participate in all programs or activities. Toward that end, if structural changes are necessary, the District shall develop a transition plan setting forth the changes deemed necessary. This transition plan shall be developed with the advice and counsel of handicapped persons and shall be posted for public inspection at the District Administration office. The District shall design and construct facilities that are readily accessible and usable by a handicapped person. Such work shall be in conformance with pertinent standards published by the American National Standards Institute and applicable state law.

Health, Welfare and Social Services

Any programs of health, welfare and social services for students offered by the District shall be provided to qualified handicapped persons on a nondiscriminatory basis.

CROSS REF: 342.9, Section 504 Plan
411-Rule, Student Discrimination/Harassment Procedures

Approved: December 2, 1996
Revised (WASB): August 24, 2009