

North Providence School Department Child Find Policy	First Read: 2/4/15 Second Read: 3/4/15 Third Read: 3/25/15

Policy

The North Providence School Department is committed to assuring that all children 3-21 and their families are provided special education and related services as deemed appropriate through an evaluation process that includes screening at ages 3-5 to assure that children are identified as in need of special education and or related services.

Purpose

The North Providence School Department will conduct child find for all children ages 3-21, and who reside in North Providence, in order to identify, locate and evaluate those students in need of special education and related services. All children include those students who are homeless, wards of the state, or are parentally placed in private or parochial schools located outside of North Providence.

For children aged 3 to 5, NPSD will maintain a screening process consistent with Rhode Island Department of Education guidelines (as amended from time to time). Screeners will be available to assess students during the year and will be part of kindergarten registration to assure that all children are identified, located and evaluated. Those students who do not pass the initial screening will be referred to the early childhood evaluation team for further assessment as part of potential eligibility for special education and related services. Documentation of those agencies participating in NPSD child find activities, the number of students screened, the number of students receiving special education and related services and their disability categories will be maintained by the early childhood coordinator and reported to the Director of Special Education.

For those students enrolled in the district, the NPSD will use available RTI and special education referral procedures that assure access to special education and related services to address their needs regardless of the severity of their disabilities.

Each private or parochial school child with a disability is entitled to FAPE as residents of North Providence and the district shall determine eligibility and shall develop an IEP as required by RI General Law.

For those students 18-21 with IEPs that have not met the NPSD graduation requirements, transition assessments will be conducted to develop an IEP consistent with the students' transition needs. Documented outreach to other agencies to coordinate the transition to adult services will be documented as part of the IEP and in the case of students with intellectual disabilities, as part of their individual career development plan.