

Laws, Rules, and Regulations

| Legal Act | Description |
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| IDEA - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act | <p>The IDEA entitles all children with disabilities to a free appropriate public education. This law and its implementing regulations set forth procedures for the identification, evaluation, and development of programs for children with disabilities and the process by which their parents may challenge educational recommendations. The right to a free appropriate public education includes the right to an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities. Non-academic and extracurricular activities include, among other things, athletics, recreational activities, special interest groups, clubs, and transportation.</p> |
| Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 | <p>Another federal law known as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 further protects students with disabilities from discrimination on the basis of their disability. Pursuant to this law, a school cannot exclude a student or deny a student participation in any non-academic or extracurricular activity on the basis of his/her disability. This law and its regulations specifically state that schools must provide aids, services, and reasonable accommodations to ensure that students with disabilities participate with students without disabilities in non-academic and extracurricular activities to the maximum extent appropriate to the needs of the student with the disability.</p> |
| ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act | <p>Title II of the ADA specifically addresses the obligations of a school board or other public entity to remove communication barriers for individuals with hearing impairment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a public entity shall take appropriate steps to ensure that communications with applicants, participants, and members of the public with disabilities are as effective as communication with others, and b) a public entity shall furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services where necessary to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in, and enjoy the benefits of, a service, program, or activity conducted by a public entity (28 C.F.R. 35.160). |