Parent Request for Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE)
Indian River School District

A. Parents of a student with a disability may obtain an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) at public expense if they disagree with the evaluation provided by Indian River School District (IRSD). If IRSD is conducting evaluations, but they have not been completed and reviewed, then there is no right to an IEE until the evaluations being done by IRSD have been finished and reviewed by the IEP Team. If IRSD has sought permission to evaluate, and the parent(s) have refused permission, then there is no right to an IEE. Typically, if IRSD has not conducted its own evaluation of the student, then there is also no parental right to an IEE. Parents are entitled to only one IEE at public expense each time IRSD completes an evaluation with which the parents disagree.

B. Typically, the request for an IEE at public expense shall be requested within two years following the completion of the evaluation done by IRSD. If a request for a publicly funded IEE is made more than two years from the date of IRSD last evaluation of the student, IRSD may seek to complete a re-evaluation prior to agreeing to fund an IEE and/or file due process due to the untimeliness of the parental request.

C. Once a parent requests an IEE, either verbally or in writing, the IRSD IEE Request Form should be completed by the school special education coordinator and sent to the IRSD Special Education Director within 2 business days of receipt of the IEE request. Within 30 days of the parents request, IRSD will determine whether or not the request for the IEE will be granted. If the request is not granted, IRSD will file a due process complaint to demonstrate that its evaluation is appropriate.

D. If the IEE request is approved, then IRSD shall provide the parents with information about where an IEE may be obtained and IRSD criteria applicable for the IEE. However, the parents may select an examiner who is not provided by IRSD, provided they have the requisite qualifications. As used here, "qualifications" means that the evaluator selected by parents:

    - holds a valid license in the area being evaluated (example: Occupational Therapist conducting an Occupational Therapy

evaluation, etc.);

- has training/experience in the administration of test instruments to be used;
- has the training/education required be able to interpret the evaluation results; and
- provides documentation of their educational background, licensure, and professional experience, demonstrating their ability to conduct the evaluation, including but not limited to, a current curriculum vitae.

The IEE must also meet district criteria for IEEs, which are the same criteria that the district uses when it conducts its own evaluations. Parents must contact the IRSD Director of Special Education once they have selected the evaluator(s) they wish to utilize where they wish to obtained the IEE so that IRSD can verify that the evaluator meets the above criteria.

E. Unless unique circumstances exist which have significant impact on either the location of the independent evaluation or the qualifications of the following maximum allowable costs for an IEE conducted at public expense will prevail. IRSD will require a receipt from the independent evaluator and will pay the lesser of the maximum allowable cost or the provider's actual fee.

- Comprehensive evaluation (Educational and Psychological) $3,000
- Psychological evaluation $2,000
- Educational evaluation $1,000
- Speech evaluation $300
- Language evaluation $500
- Physical Therapy evaluation $500
- Occupational Therapy evaluation $500
- Audiological evaluation $500

F. IRSD may not impose conditions or timelines related to obtaining an IEE at public expense other than ensuring the criteria under which the evaluation is obtained, including the location of the evaluation and the qualifications of the examiner are the same as those used by IRSD when it initiates an assessment.

G. In order for the IEP team to appropriately review, discuss, and consider an IEE, the assessment must address educationally relevant information from the perspective of IDEA requirements and must be administered by a qualified examiner for the purpose of evaluation who must have first - hand contact with the student and utilize the same criteria in reference to disability categories and assessment tools, strategies, and procedures for the State of Delaware.

H. All assessment procedures and all evaluations must also meet the assessment criteria outlined in the specific disability categories as defined by the State of Delaware.

I. If a request for a publicly funded IEE is granted, the evaluation should be completed within a reasonable period of time following the date IRSD finalizes

the agreement with the independent evaluator to fund the IEE. Parental permission for the evaluator to communicate and share information with IRSD must be granted and the evaluator must agree to prepare an evaluation report and release the assessment information and results directly to IRSD prior to or on the same day the results are provided to the parents. The evaluator must also agree to make all test protocols available for review by IRSD and be free of any conflict of interest. The IEE must also not be of benefit to any particular public, non-public, or private school, agency, or institution.

J. Provided an IEE obtained at public or private expense meets IRSD criteria, it shall be reviewed, discussed, and considered by an IEP team in making any decision regarding the provision of FAPE for the student. However, the IEP team is not required to implement the findings or recommendations of an IEE. The findings of an IEE may also be presented as evidence at a due process hearing.

K. Should IRSD determine not to provide an IEE at public expense, the Director of Special Education will notify the parents in writing of IRSD intention to initiate a due process hearing to demonstrate that the evaluation conducted by IRSD was appropriate. However, the parent continues to have the right to obtain an IEE at their own expense.

L. If an impartial hearing officer determines that the IRSD evaluation is appropriate, the parents may not obtain an IEE at public expense, but may do so at their own expense.

M. If an impartial hearing officer determines that the IRSD evaluation is not appropriate, IRSD shall provide an IEE at public expense.

N. If an impartial hearing office requests an IEE as part of a due process hearing, the cost of the IEE shall be at public expense.

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Indian River School District
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302-436-1000 x 101004

Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) sources

Dr. Katherine Elder, PhD	https://www.delawarepsychologicalservices.com/
Holly Cohen, M.Ed., NCSP	hollycohen@gmail.com
Back to Basics, Learning Dynamics, Inc.	http://www.backtobasicslearning.com/
Dr. Kerri Kennard, PhD	http://psychologicalassociatesofsoutherndelaware.webs.com/
Dr. Kara Schmidt, PhD	http://www.karaschmidt.org/
Dr. Margaret Kay, Ed.D	https://margaretkay.com/
Beyond Speech Therapy	https://www.beyondspeechtherapyde.com/
Aquacare Physical Therapy	https://aquacarephysicaltherapy.com/locations/millsboro-delaware/
Nemours Children's Hospital	800-416-4441
Dr. Ashley Marchante-Hoffman, Ph.D	Holistic Testing and Therapy, LLC amh@holistictestingandtherapy.com 302-276-8062
Dr. Katherine Zambrana, Ph.D, MSEd	Bilingual Psychological and Consultation Services, LLC Kzambrana24@gmail.com 302-385-6696

*Not a comprehensive list, contact information believed to be accurate but may change.

Indian River School District

Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE)

Request Form

To be completed by the parent(s) or IRSD staff taking the parent's verbal request for an IEE

Student's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

School: _____

Parent(s) name, address, and phone number: _____

_____

_____

_____

Date of evaluations completed by IRSD: _____

Type of evaluations completed by IRSD: _____

_____

Which IRSD evaluation(s) do you disagree with and the reason(s) for disagreement:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

If you have already chosen an Independent evaluator(s), list their name, address, and phone number:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Parent(s) Signature: _____ Date: _____

The IEE request will be reviewed by the IRSD Special Education Director/Supervisor with the determination made within 30 days of the parent(s) request to either grant or deny the IEE.