



KONAWA PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHILD FIND



Child Find is a public awareness activity to locate, evaluate, and identify children ages 3 through 21 years of age who may have disabilities defined under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and may need special education, regardless of the severity of the disability, and to coordinate with SoonerStart Early Intervention Program and any other program that may have children with disabilities. A child with a disability means a child evaluated and determined eligible for special education and related services in accordance with IDEA under the following categories:

Autism, Deaf-Blindness, Deaf or Hearing Impairment, Emotional Disturbance, Intellectual Disabilities, Multiple Disabilities, Orthopedic Impairment, Other Health Impairment, Specific Learning Disability, Speech or Language Impairment, Traumatic Brain Injury, Visual Impairment, and Developmental Delay.

Konawa Public School District is responsible for locating, evaluating and identifying children with disabilities who live within the district boundaries. All eligible children with disabilities beginning at age three (3), who are residents of the Konawa Public School District, have a right to a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) as mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The specific special education and related services for eligible children ages 3-21 will be determined by the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team members based on that particular child's unique needs.

Confidentiality of Information regarding students with disabilities must follow the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and its implementing regulations at 34 CRF, part 99, and must follow the provisions established for special education under the IDEA and its implementing regulations at 34 CRF 500.560 through 500.577.

Confidentiality of Information for students with disabilities shall follow the established policies and procedures of the school district. This shall include protecting the confidentiality of personally identifiable information.

A referral for Special Education evaluation can legally be made by anyone involved with the child's education and development, including but not limited to Early Childhood Screenings, SoonerStart Early Intervention, Intervention Teams, parents, teacher, or principal.

In the identification process, the District may use screening or coordinated early intervening services. The District's general education interventions will not delay the initial evaluation for special education services of a student suspected of having a disability.

If through Child Find activities, a child is identified as possibly having a disability and needing special education services, the District may seek parental consent to evaluate the child. All such evaluations will be conducted in compliance with applicable federal and state law and regulations.

If you have a preschool aged child or you are a parent of a child attending a private school, and you suspect your child may have a disability or is exhibiting delays in his/her development, and you are a resident of the Konawa Public School District, then please contact the Director of Special Services, Marie Prewett, at marieprewett@konawa.k12.ok.us, (580) 925-3244 Ext. 257, 701 West South Street, Konawa, OK 74849.

If your child is already enrolled and is attending one of the Konawa Public School District's sites, then talk to your child's teacher or school counselor about your concerns regarding your child's development, or that you suspect your child may have a disability.