

SCOTTSBLUFF PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Scottsbluff, Nebraska

**SPECIAL EDUCATION - Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MDT)
Requirements**

1. Evaluation of Students

- a. The multidisciplinary evaluation team (including the child's parents) shall be responsible for the analysis, assessment and documentation of educational and developmental abilities and needs of each child referred for the purpose of individual evaluation. Using the documentation collected and the Nebraska Department of Education verification criteria, the multidisciplinary team shall make all verification decisions. Documented information shall be collected to facilitate the development of a statement of present level of development and educational performance on the IFSP or IEP.
- b. The multidisciplinary evaluation team members shall be composed of such individuals as required by state and federal law.
- c. For students attending nonpublic schools, an administrator or a designated representative of the nonpublic school shall be a member of the team.
- d. In making a determination of eligibility, a child shall not be determined to be a child with a disability if the determining factor is lack of appropriate instruction in reading (including in the essential components of reading instruction as defined by federal laws), lack of instruction in math or limited English proficiency.
- e. If a determination is made that a child has a disability and needs special education and related services, an IEP must be developed for the child in accordance with state and federal laws.
- f. Referral, notice to parents and parental consent shall be completed in a reasonable period of time. The initial multidisciplinary team evaluation shall be completed within 60 days of receiving parental consent for the evaluation. This 60-day period shall not apply if either (1) the child has enrolled in Scottsbluff Public Schools after consent for evaluation was given to the child's previous school, the child's previous school is making sufficient progress on the evaluation to ensure prompt completion and the parent and Scottsbluff Public Schools agree to a specific time period when the evaluation will be completed or (2) the parent repeatedly fails or refuses to produce the child for the evaluation.

2. Multidisciplinary team written reports
 - a. The team shall prepare a written report of the results of the evaluation.
 - b. The report shall include a statement of: whether the child qualifies as a student with a disability based on the eligibility criteria and definition of “children with disabilities” contained in the Nebraska Department of Education Rules; the basis for making the determination; the child’s educational needs; and a listing of the team members.
 - c. For a child with a suspected learning disability, the report shall also include:
 - 1) a statement of whether the student has a specific learning disability based on criteria and the definition as issued by the Nebraska Department of Education;
 - 2) the relevant behavior noted during the observation of the student; the relationship of that behavior to the student’s academic functioning; the educationally relevant medical findings, if any; and the determination of the team concerning the effects of environmental, cultural, or economic disadvantage;
 - d. In determining whether a child has a specific learning disability, the team may use a process that determines if the child responds to scientific, research-based intervention (Response to Intervention Process) as a part of the evaluation procedures, or a process that demonstrates a severe discrepancy between intellectual ability and achievement (Severe Discrepancy Process).
 - e. Each team member shall certify in writing whether the report reflects his or her conclusion. If it does not reflect his or her conclusion, the team member shall submit a separate statement presenting his or her conclusion.
 - f. A copy of the evaluation report and the documentation of determination of eligibility shall be given to the parent.
3. Further Evaluation or Non-Verification
 - a. Should a multidisciplinary evaluation team recommend that further evaluation of a student may be necessary by an outside agency, the building principal should contact the director of special education. Supplemental evaluation must be approved by the director of special education.
 - b. For a school-age student who, after initial MDT evaluation, does not qualify for special education services or for a student with a verified

disability who, upon reevaluation, no longer qualifies for special education services, a problem-solving team shall document a plan to assist the teacher(s) in the provision of regular education.

**Legal Reference: Federal Regulation 34
CFR 300; Nebraska
Statutes 79-1110 to 79-1178; 92 NAC 51-006.02**

Approved:

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