

Program Policy #113.6
Special Education - Parent/Guardian Request for an
Independent Educational Evaluation

Purpose:

SusQ-Cyber Charter School complies with all federal and state regulations and requirements regarding access to and provision of independent evaluations.

Guidelines:

- Parents/guardians have the right to obtain an independent evaluation of their child(ren).
- The supervisor of special education will give parents the Procedural Safeguards Notice immediately and will inform parents that the district will respond to the request within 10 (ten) school days. The supervisor of special education will inform parents of the district's decision.
- The district maintains the right to request a due process hearing to confirm that its evaluation is appropriate. If the district declines the parents' request for an independent evaluation, parents will receive the reason in writing from the district.
- The school psychologist and special education supervisor maintain a list of independent evaluators and will provide the information to parents/guardians upon request.
- If the district agrees to the independent evaluation or a hearing officer orders such evaluation, the district is obligated to pay for the evaluation. The supervisor of special education will inform parents that the invoice should be sent to the Special Education Office.
- If a hearing officer orders an independent evaluation, the district must consider the results in any decision regarding provision of appropriate educational services for the student.
- If parents obtain an independent educational evaluation at their own expense, the results of the evaluation will be considered in any decision regarding FAPE for their child(ren).
- Whenever the district is obligated to pay for an independent evaluation, the criteria for obtaining the evaluation (location, qualifications of examiner) must be the same as the criteria used when the district initiated the evaluation.

Delegation of Responsibility:

The CEO is responsible to ensure that all the provisions for independent evaluations are made available to parents. List of approved evaluators is attached as page 2 of this policy.

TO THE EXTENT THAT ANYTHING IN THIS POLICY COULD BE CONSTRUED TO CONFLICT WITH APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS, THE APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS CONTROL. THIS POLICY IS NOT INTENDED TO CONFLICT WITH CHARTER REQUIREMENT.

Independent Evaluators

The SusQ-Cyber Charter School makes available to parents, a listing of independent evaluators that can be used for an alternative evaluation of students believed to need special education services.

Evangelical Community Hospital

Richard Dowell Jr., PhD
Neurophysiologist 570-522-1007

Joan Moreau, MD
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry 570-523-7509

Geisinger Health Systems 570-271-6156

Kaleen Kovalovich, MD
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry

Heather Hoover, PhD
Behavioral Medicine

Thomas Challman, MD
Neurodevelopmental Disabilities

Scott Myers, MD
Neurodevelopmental Disabilities

Matthew Powell, PhD
Neuropsychology

Brad Wilson, PhD
Neuropsychology

Paul Kettlewell, PhD
Pediatric Psychologist

Christine Chew, PhD
Pediatric Psychologist

MidStep Child Development Center, PC

Anne Carlson, Psy.D 570-523-1617

Private Practice

Michael Hayes, PhD 570-374-0940

The CEO will ensure that this list is updated on a yearly basis to remain current.