

MONONA GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Administrative Rule 342.11

SPECIAL EDUCATION EVALUATION CRITERIA

State and federal law requires the Monona Grove School District to evaluate children with disabilities who are in need of special education and related services. The Monona Grove School District evaluates children upon initial referral for special education, and reevaluates children with disabilities as prescribed in federal and state law or when conditions warrant a reevaluation.

The Monona Grove School District is committed to ensuring that each child's individualized education program (IEP) team bases its decisions on high quality, reliable, and educationally sound special education evaluations. As a result, the Monona Grove School District has established the following list of criteria for all special education evaluations that the Monona Grove School District conducts or obtains. Unique circumstances may justify deviation from these criteria. If a parent or Monona Grove School District staff member is aware of such unique circumstances, they should inform the Director of Pupil Services immediately.

1. The Evaluator must hold a valid license from the State of Wisconsin in the field related to the known or suspected disability. The Evaluator must have extensive training and experiences in the evaluation of the area(s) of concern and be able to interpret instructional implications of the evaluation results. In instances where no "applicable license" exists, the Monona Grove School District must be satisfied that the Evaluator has extensive training and experience related to the known or suspected disability.
2. The Evaluator must be located within the Madison metropolitan area. If a qualified evaluator is not located in the area, the Monona Grove School District will identify a qualified evaluator located elsewhere. The Evaluator must be permitted to directly communicate and share information with members of the IEP team and the Director of Pupil Services. The Evaluator must also release the assessments and results, including any parent and teacher surveys, to the members of the IEP team and the Director of Pupil Services.
3. Unless otherwise determined by members of a child's IEP team, the Evaluator must observe the child in one or more educational settings. In addition, Evaluators are encouraged to make additional contacts with other involved regular or special education teachers, and related service providers.
4. Absent unique circumstances, evaluation may not exceed the District's applicable maximum allowable costs. The maximum allowable cost for an independent educational evaluation (IEE) is established at \$1200.00. If a parent requests unreasonable reimbursement of travel costs or other related costs in connection with any evaluation, the Monona Grove School District will suggest mediation and/or initiate a due process hearing. The Monona Grove School District will not pay unreasonable travel costs unless a hearing officer, applying state and federal law, orders the Monona Grove School District to do so.
5. The evaluation must comply with any and all relevant provisions of Wisconsin Statute 115.782 regarding special education evaluations.

LEGAL REFERENCE: WI Statutes 115.782 – Evaluations

CROSS REFERENCE: Board Policy 342.1 – Programs for Children With Disabilities

BOARD APPROVAL: January 14, 2004