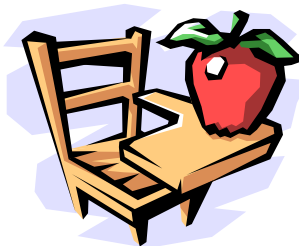




## SANGER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Do You Know a Child with Special Needs?



# Special Education

### What is Child Find?

The purpose of Child Find is to identify, locate, and evaluate children between the ages birth through 21 years of age who are suspected of having or have a diagnosed disability or developmental delay, in order to provide appropriate special education services under the law.

### When Should a Child Be Referred to Child Find?

A child should be referred when:

- A health or a medical disorder interferes with development and/or learning
- A child seems to have difficulty seeing or hearing
- A child appears to have social, emotional or behavioral difficulties that affect his/her ability to learn or interact with others
- A child has a diagnosed progressive or degenerative condition that will eventually impair or impede the child's ability to learn.

- A child seems to have difficulty understanding directions like others that are his/her age.
- A child's speech is not understood by family or friends.

### What is Special Education?

Special education is instruction designed to meet the unique learning strengths and needs of the individual student with disabilities from ages birth through 21 years of age. It is defined as:

- Specially designed instruction
- At no cost to the parents
- To meet the unique needs of a child with a disability.

Special education services may be provided in a variety of educational settings, but are required by Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to be delivered in the least restrictive environment.

### Who is Eligible for Services?

A student must be evaluated and identified as having a disability to be eligible for special education programs and related services. The degree of the student's impairment must require special education.

The disability categories are:

- Autism
- Hearing Impairment including Deafness
- Deaf-Blindness
- Emotionally Disturbed
- Language/Speech Disorder
- Mental Retardation
- Multiple Disabilities
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Other Health Impaired
- Specific Learning Disability
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Visual Impairment

### How Can Children Be Referred?

A referral may be made by a parent or by any

person concerned about a child. Parent involvement and agreement is obtained prior to any further action. Information is confidential and privacy of children and parents is protected.

### Can a Child Attending a Private School Be Referred?

School districts are required to conduct Child Find for all parentally placed children with disabilities attending private schools within the district's boundaries. Once the child is located and identified, the school district where the private school is located is responsible, upon parental consent, to conduct an initial evaluation.

### District Contact:

Department of Special Education  
(559) 524-6561

### Early Intervention

For children 0-5 years of age, contact: Jason Stricker  
Project Manager  
@ (559) 524-6521