



Advisory Panel Functions and Membership

Special Education Advisory Panel Functions under IDEA

It is important for all Advisory Panel members to have a working understanding of the Panel functions as mentioned in IDEA. The following are the **functions of the Advisory Panel** as listed in IDEA 2004:

- ◇ Advise the SEA of unmet needs within the State in the education of children and youth with disabilities. (CFR 300.169(a))
- ◇ Comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the State regarding the education of children with disabilities. (CFR 300.169(b))
- ◇ Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under 618. (CFR 300.169(c))
- ◇ Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in federal monitoring reports. (CFR 300.169(d))
- ◇ Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities. (CFR 300.169(e))
- ◇ Waiver of nonsupplant requirement. State must consult with the Advisory Panel regarding provisions of FAPE. (CFR 300.164(c)(4))

Special Education Advisory Panel Membership under IDEA

Each Panel member should have an understanding of Panel membership requirements under IDEA and which stakeholder's group they represent. The membership of the **State Advisory Panel must consist of members appointed by the Governor—or any other official authorized under State law to make these appointments---be representative of the State population**, and be composed of individuals involved in or concerned with the education of children and youth with disabilities, including the following (from CFR 300.168):

- Parents of children with disabilities (*ages birth through 26*)
- Individuals with disabilities
- Teachers
- Representatives of institutions of higher education that prepare special education and related services personnel
- State and local education officials, including officials who carry out activities under subtitles B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act*
- Administrators of programs for children with disabilities
- Representatives of other State agencies involved in the financing or who deliver related services to children with disabilities
- Representatives of private school **and** public charter schools
- At least one representative of a vocational, community, or business organization concerned with the provision of transition services to children with disabilities
- Representatives from the State juvenile **and** adult corrections agencies
- Representative from State child welfare who is responsible for foster care

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