

Purpose and Functions of Panel

State Advisory Panel (34 CFR §300.167)

In general, the state has established and maintains an advisory panel for the purpose of providing policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children and youth with disabilities (ages 3 years to 21 years) in the state.

The purpose of the panel is to make recommendations and advise the Arizona State Board of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the State Education Agency (SEA) through the Deputy Associate Superintendent of Exceptional Student Services regarding the functions in this section, including special education issues, programs, and services as they relate to eligible individuals with disabilities, as per P.L. 108-446 the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2004 and ARS §15-235.

The functions and duties of the panel shall be as follows:

1. Advise the SEA of unmet needs within the State in the education of individuals with disabilities. (34 CFR §300.169 (a))
2. Comment publicly on the rules and regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of individuals with disabilities. (34 CFR §300.169 (b))
3. Advise the State Education Agency in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under section 618. (34 CFR §300.169 (c))
4. Advise the State Education Agency in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal monitoring reports. (34 CFR §300.169 (d))
5. Advise the State Education Agency in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for individuals with disabilities. (34 CFR §300.169 (e))
6. Review all final due process officer findings and decisions. (34 CFR §300.513 (d) & §300.514 (c))

The primary role of the panel is to provide advice and recommendations regarding the six duties. On or before December 1 of each year, the panel will submit an annual report of its activities and recommendations to the Deputy Associate Superintendent of Exceptional Student Services, who will forward it to the Arizona State Board of Education.