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SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION
CHAPTER I: STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SUBCHAPTER f: INSTRUCTION FOR SPECIFIC STUDENT POPULATIONS

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AUTHORITY: Implementing Article 14 and authorized by Section 2-3.6 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5].

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SUBPART D: PLACEMENT

Section 226.330 Placement by School District in State-Operated or Nonpublic Special Education Facilities

EMERGENCY

When an IEP Team determines that no less restrictive setting on the continuum of alternative placements will meet a child's needs, the child may be placed in a State-operated or nonpublic special education facility. In such a case, use of a State-operated program should be given first consideration. However, the district shall refer the child to the agency or facility which is most appropriate to the individual situation. This determination shall be based upon recent diagnostic assessments and other pertinent evidence and made in light of such other factors as proximity to the child's home. Evidence of a condition that presents a danger to the physical well-being of the student or to other students may be taken into consideration in identifying the appropriate placement for a particular child.

a) When it appears that a child will require a placement pursuant to this Section, the IEP Team shall invite representatives of potential service providers to assist in identifying or verifying the appropriate placement for that child. If one or more needed representatives cannot attend, the district shall use other methods to ensure their participation.

b) The local school district is responsible for ensuring implementation of the child's IEP and convening any needed IEP meetings, including the annual review. If the district allows a State-operated or nonpublic school to initiate and conduct the IEP meeting, the district must ensure that the parent and a representative of the district are invited to participate in any decision about the child's IEP and agree to any proposed changes in the program before the changes are implemented. The district remains responsible for the development and implementation of the child's
c) Except for emergency placements made pursuant to subsection (g) or (i), no school district shall place any child in a nonpublic special education program, nor shall any such program accept placement of any child with a disability under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/14-7.02], unless all the following conditions have been met.

1) The program has been approved by the State Board of Education pursuant to the criteria set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 401 (Special Education Facilities Under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code) for the school year for which placement is sought.

2) The allowable costs for the program have been established pursuant to Section 14-7.02 of the School Code.

3) The district has made the certification of inability to meet the student's needs to the State Superintendent of Education, if required pursuant to Section 14-7.02 of the School Code, and the State Superintendent has found the district in substantial compliance with Section 14-4.01 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/14-4.01].

4) The program has been approved by the State Board of Education for all of the disability categories applicable to the student and requiring services pursuant to the IEP.

5) The program has been approved by the State Board of Education for the age range that includes the age of the student.

6) The district has determined that all educational programming and related services specified on the child's IEP will be provided to the student. The use of a facility or program pursuant to 23 Ill. Adm. Code 401 does not relieve the local school district of the responsibility for ensuring that the student will receive all programming and related services required by the IEP, whether from one source or from multiple sources.

7) The school district and the facility have entered into the contractual agreement required by subsection (d) of this Section.

8) The child will receive an education that meets the standards applicable to
d) If a nonpublic school placement is chosen, the district and the facility shall enter into an agreement utilizing a format provided by the State Board of Education. The agreement shall provide for, but need not be limited to:

1) The child's IEP, as developed by the local school district;
2) The amount of tuition that will be charged;
3) Assurance that the special education staff of the placing school district may inspect the private facility and confer with the staff at reasonable times; and
4) Assurances that the placement will result in no cost to parents.

e) When a nonpublic facility is used, the school district shall be responsible for the payment of tuition and the provision of transportation as provided by Section 14-7.02 of the School Code. (See also Section 226.750(b) of this Part.)

f) Each local school district shall be responsible for monitoring the performance of each State-operated or nonpublic facility where it has placed one or more eligible students, to ensure that the implementation of each IEP conforms to the applicable requirements of this Part.

g) A school district may place a student in a nonpublic special education facility (“facility”) providing educational services, but not approved by the State Board of Education pursuant to 23 Ill. Adm. Code 401 or other applicable laws or administrative rules, provided that the State Board of Education provides an emergency and student-specific approval for placement. The State Board of Education shall promptly, within 10 days of the request, approve requests for emergency and student-specific approval for placement when the following have been demonstrated to the State Board of Education:

1) The facility demonstrates appropriate certification of teachers for the student population;
2) The facility demonstrates age-appropriate curriculum;
3) The facility provides enrollment and attendance data;
4) The facility demonstrates the ability to implement the child's IEP; and

5) The school district demonstrates that it made good faith efforts to place the student in an approved facility, but no approved facility has accepted the student or has availability for immediate placement of the student.

h) Resident district financial responsibility and reimbursement under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/14-7.02] applies for both nonpublic special education facilities that are approved by the State Board of Education pursuant to 23 Ill. Adm. Code 401 or other applicable laws or administrative rules and nonpublic special education facilities that receive emergency and student-specific approval for placement by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (g).

i) When an impartial due process hearing officer contracted by the State Board of Education orders placement of a student with a disability in a residential facility that is not approved by the State Board of Education, for purposes of subsection (g), the facility shall be deemed approved for placement and resident district payments and State reimbursements shall be made accordingly.

j) Placement in a facility approved pursuant to subsection (g) or (i) may continue to be utilized so long as:

1) The student’s IEP team determines annually such placement continues to be appropriate to meet the student’s needs, and

2) At least every 3 years following the student’s placement, the IEP team reviews appropriate ISBE-approved facilities under 23 Ill. Adm. Code 401 to determine whether there are any approved facilities that can meet the student’s needs, has accepted the student, and has availability for placement of the student.

(Source: Emergency amendment at 46 Ill. Reg. ______, effective ____________, for a maximum of 150 days)
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SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION
CHAPTER I: STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SUBCHAPTER I: NONPUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

PART 401
SPECIAL EDUCATION FACILITIES UNDER
SECTION 14-7.02 OF THE SCHOOL CODE

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401.230 Student Progress Reports and Reviews
401.240 Staffing Requirements
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401.270 Student Records
401.280 Fiscal Provisions

AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by Sections 14-7.02 and 14-8.01 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/14-7.02 and 14-8.01].


SUBPART A: APPROVAL OF PROGRAMS

Section 401.5 Definitions

**EMERGENCY**

"Business Day" means Monday through Friday, except federal and State holidays.

"Combination Program" is one that includes both educational and residential services.

"Educational Program" is one that consists of special education and related services intended to meet the specific needs of the unique populations served.

"Facility" is the physical premises where a provider offers services.

"IEP Team" has the meaning ascribed in 34 CFR 300.23.
"Imminent Danger" is an act committed when the life or health of a child is knowingly or blatantly disregarded by causing a real, significant or impending risk of harm; permitting the life or health of the student with a disability (as defined in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 USC 1400 et seq.)) to be threatened; or causing or permitting a child to be placed in circumstances that endanger the student's life or health.

"Individualized Education Program" or "IEP" is a written statement for a student with a disability that conforms to the requirements of 34 CFR 300.320 and, for Illinois students, meets the requirements of 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.230 (Content of the IEP).

"Individual Student Aide (noninstructional duties)" shall have the meaning ascribed in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.860.

"Paraprofessional Educator" or "Paraprofessional" shall have the meaning ascribed in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.860.

"Professional Staff" means administrators, supervisors, teachers and providers of related services, appropriately licensed in accordance with 23 Ill. Adm. Code 25 or 226.800 or Section 401.240 of this Part, who either provide or direct the provision of special education or related services specified in the IEPs of students served, or who evaluate student progress or evaluate the provision of those special education or related services. Facilities located outside the State of Illinois shall provide evidence of professional licensure/certification granted by their respective state licensing agencies for all employed personnel. The qualifications of each position shall be reviewed by the State Board to ensure comparability to the qualifications of Illinois personnel established by regulation and/or law. Professional staff does not include persons providing services other than special education and related services specified in the IEP or whose duties are limited to assisting professional staff.

"Program" is a set of educational and/or residential services, with professional staff to meet specific needs of the unique population served.

"Programmatic Outcomes" are evidence of progress towards goals established by the program and are intended to demonstrate continuous program improvement. The provider shall not only establish goals for itself, but additionally collect/analyze data for enrolled students with disabilities, in alignment with these self-established goals. Further, this information shall be shared with the State...
Board of Education and with contracting districts, so that the nature of future technical assistance to the provider can be determined and to promote transparency.

"Provider" is any organization that offers special education and/or residential services to students with disabilities under contract with one or more Illinois public school districts and pursuant to Section 14-7.02 of the School Code. A provider under this Part does not include an organization providing emergency and student-specific placements pursuant to 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.330 (g) or (i).

"Related Services" has the meaning ascribed in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.75 (special education).

"SBE Approved" or "SBE Approval" means approval of a program in accordance with this Part.

"School Code" means 105 ILCS 5.

"Special Education" has the meaning ascribed in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.75.

(Source: Emergency amendment at 46 Ill. Reg. ______, effective ____________, for a maximum of 150 days)

Section 401.10  Application for Eligibility  EMERGENCY

Each provider seeking to become eligible to contract with Illinois public school districts to serve students with disabilities under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code shall be subject to the SBE approval process described in this Section. The provider shall be a nonpublic special education program designed to serve students with disabilities. In accordance with 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.330 (Placement by School District in State-Operated or Nonpublic Special Education Facilities), SBE approved nonpublic special education programs shall provide a highly specialized option for public school districts to use when an IEP Team determines that no less restrictive setting on the continuum of alternative placements will meet the student's needs. SBE approval shall be specific to individual programs offered by a provider, and the same type of program conducted at two separate facilities shall be treated as two separate programs for purposes of approval. A program not approved in accordance with the requirements of this Part shall not be used by public school districts to serve students with disabilities under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code, except for facilities used for emergency and student-specific placements pursuant to 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.330 (g) or (i).
a) An application for initial SBE approval of educational programs and/or residential programs, presented on forms supplied by the State Superintendent and containing all the items enumerated in this subsection (a), shall be submitted to the State Superintendent. Each application shall include the following:

1) An accurate, written description of each program for which SBE approval is requested shall include the following:

   A) The disability categories and ages of students with disabilities for whom it is specifically intended;

   B) The purpose and scope of the provider and its specific program services;

   C) The data that will be collected on the programmatic outcomes achieved by those students, which shall reflect the students’ learning goals as described in their respective IEPs;

   D) The maximum number of students the program is intended to accommodate; and

   E) A description of the program's philosophy and methodology behind working towards reintegrating students into the general education environment and/or supporting students towards the least restrictive environment.

2) A written plan for the administration and organization of the programs, including, but not limited to, the following:

   A) A plan for the allocation of space solely for program purposes; and

   B) An organizational chart that reflects the provider's governance, administrative and educational structures.

3) The provider's proposed calendar for the program for which approval is sought shall meet the following requirements:

   A) Regular School Year
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Each provider's operating schedule shall include at least 176 days of student attendance for at least 5 instructional hours per school day during the regular school year. Related services listed in the student's IEP are included in meeting the instructional hour requirement. Instructional hours shall not include lunch, passing time or recess, unless otherwise specified by the individual student's IEP. A provider may have two full day parent/teacher conferences. This option reduces the required number of student days to 174. This subsection (a)(3)(A) will be effective beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.

B) Educational Programming Outside of the Regular School Year
If programming takes place and is operated at a facility located within Illinois, it shall consist of at least 120 hours of instruction. Programming operated at a facility in another state may consist of fewer than 120 hours of instruction if approved by the responsible authority in that state. This subsection (a)(3)(B) will be effective beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.

4) A copy of the State Fire Marshal's most recent inspection report for the facility, which shall be no more than 36 months old at the time the application is approved, or, if the State Fire Marshal's report is unavailable, an inspection report for the facility from a local governmental agency that is no more than 12 months old, neither of which shall indicate violations, or, as applicable, the following:

A) For an Illinois facility that is subject to the provisions of 23 Ill. Adm. Code 180 (Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools), the report of the regional superintendent's most recent inspection conducted pursuant to Section 3-14.21 of the School Code; or

B) For an out-of-state facility, equivalent, current documentation of compliance with applicable state fire codes, or, if there is no state fire code, the applicable local fire code, clearly identifying the issuing authority.

5) The Application for Nonpublic Programs, provided by the State Board of Education, includes a Statement of Assurances that requires the signature of the facility's chief administrator acknowledging that the program is in compliance with the following laws and regulations:
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A) Federal Laws
   i) Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 USC 16911)
   ii) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 USC 1681)
   iii) Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (29 USC 621)
   iv) Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 USC 1400)
   v) Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC 12101)
   vi) Titles IV and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d)

B) State Laws and Regulations
   i) Administrative Hearings [5 ILCS 100/Art. 10]
   ii) Provisions of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5, 3-14.21, 10-20.14b, 10-22.21b, 10-21.4a, 14-4.01 and 14-7.02]
   iii) Illinois School Student Records Act [105 ILCS 10]
   iv) Uniform Conviction Information Act [20 ILCS 2635]
   v) Sex Offender Community Notification [730 ILCS 152]
   vi) Certification of Information to Licensing Agencies [305 ILCS 5/10-17.6]
   vii) Illinois Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry [730 ILCS 154/85]
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viii) Illinois Human Rights Act [775 ILCS 5]

ix) Public Works Employment Discrimination Act [775 ILCS 10]

x) Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision
(23 Ill. Adm. Code 1.30, 1.50, 1.280 and 1.285)

xi) Educator Licensure (23 Ill. Adm. Code 25.510)

xii) Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools (23 Ill. Adm. Code 180)

xiii) Special Education (23 Ill. Adm. Code 226)

xiv) Contested Cases and Other Formal Hearings (23 Ill. Adm. Code 475)

xv) Illinois Purchased Care Review Board (89 Ill. Adm. Code 900)

6) If the facility is located in Illinois and offers a residential component, evidence of the facility's current licensure, certification or approval by the responsible agency of Illinois government. The requirements of this subsection (a)(6) shall apply to contractual agreements for placements entered into on or after July 1, 2018. Nothing in this subsection (a)(6) shall be construed to disrupt, impact or nullify current contractual agreements for placements unless the IEP team determines another placement is more appropriate or the student reaches an age at which he or she is no longer eligible for services under the IEP.

7) If the facility is located outside Illinois, evidence of the facility's current licensure, certification or approval to operate its educational and/or residential programs in the state where it is located, including a copy of the standards or criteria used by the responsible agency in that state. If the state in which the facility is located does not regulate the program, the program is ineligible for SBE approval. The requirements of this subsection (a)(7) shall apply to contractual agreements for placements entered into on or after July 1, 2018. Nothing in this subsection (a)(7) shall be construed to disrupt, impact or nullify contractual agreements for
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placements in effect on or before June 30, 2018. A sibling of a student who is placed pursuant to a contractual agreement in place on or before June 30, 2018 who is also served under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code may be placed at the same facility after July 1, 2018 if the sibling's IEP team determines that is the most appropriate placement.

8) For instructional programs, summary information about all professional staff positions, and copies of the relevant credentials of persons employed in those positions that demonstrate that the facility has sufficient staff available who are qualified pursuant to the requirements of Section 401.240 in order to operate the program.

9) For instructional programs, summaries of related services provided by the facility's professional staff or available to the provider under contract, demonstrating that the provider has sufficient related services available to operate the program.

10) For programs serving students for whom behavioral interventions may be appropriate, a description of the provider's formalized approach to the use of these interventions, subject to the limitation stated in Section 401.140(a). Starting with the 2019-2020 school year, providers utilizing disciplinary or behavioral techniques and/or interventions prohibited in Illinois are not eligible for approval in Illinois, except as otherwise provided in Section 14-7.02 of the School Code.

b) Upon submission of an initial application for an educational or combination program, the provider will be required to complete a scheduled nonpublic special education orientation. The orientation shall be completed prior to a final determination being made on the application. Providers that have completed a compliance monitoring review that yielded no findings within the last five years are exempt from orientation.

c) If the application is complete and the facility is located in Illinois or within 50 miles of Illinois, State Board of Education staff shall conduct an on-site review and evaluate the facility and the programs offered for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of the application, evaluating their conformance with the other requirements of this Part and recommending approval or disapproval of the programs.
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1) An out-of-state program conducted more than 50 miles outside of Illinois shall be approved without a site visit from an Illinois representative if the following conditions are satisfied:

   A) The educational program is an approved special education program in the state where the facility is located and this approval was granted in light of the information gathered during a site visit by a representative of the responsible agency;

   B) The residential component, if any, is regulated by the responsible agency in the state where the facility is located; and

   C) The application provides evidence that the requirements of Section 410.140 will be met.

2) An out-of-state program conducted more than 50 miles outside of Illinois that was approved in the state where the facility is located without a site visit by the responsible agency may be visited by a representative of the State Board of Education in order to verify the accuracy of the application and determine whether the requirements of this Part have been met so that Illinois approval can be granted.

d) A program determined to comply with this Part shall be designated as "Approved" and shall be available to Illinois public school districts to serve students with disabilities under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code beginning on the day the application is approved, provided that the other requirements of Section 401.110 of this Part have also been met. The provider operating the facility shall be notified in writing of the date of program approval.

  1) Initial approval shall end on the last day of the program's approved calendar for the school year in question, unless approval is changed pursuant to Section 401.30.

  2) A program shall serve only the specific student demographics described in the approved application. All program changes or additions to disability categories or services, age range service, or changes in location shall be approved in a manner prescribed by the State Superintendent prior to that change or addition being made.

e) An initial application that does not meet the requirements of this Part shall be
provided with a notice of the specific deficiencies. If the deficiencies have not been remedied in their entirety within one year after receipt of the notice, the provider shall receive a denial of its application.

f) An application for renewal of SBE approval, consisting of all the components set forth in subsection (a), shall be submitted for any subsequent period in which a provider seeks to contract with Illinois public school districts to serve students with disabilities in the facility under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code. The submission deadline shall be the March 15 prior to the beginning of the school year in question. If March 15 is not a business day, the deadline shall fall on the next business day. The SBE approval process for any subsequent period may also involve on-site reviews, at the sole discretion of the State Superintendent.

1) The denial of an application for renewal of SBE approval shall cause the program approval status to change to "nonapproved" subject to the procedures set forth in Section 401.30(c).

2) Renewed approval generally shall be valid for two school years, ending on the last day of the program's approved calendar for the second school year, unless approval is changed pursuant to Section 401.30. The first renewal of SBE approval for a new program offered by a provider that already operates other approved programs shall be granted for the number of years that will place it on the cycle already established for that provider.

(Source: Emergency amendment at 46 Ill. Reg. ______, effective ____________, for a maximum of 150 days)

SUBPART B: PLACEMENT AND EDUCATION OF STUDENTS

Section 401.110 Use by Public School Districts

EMERGENCY

Each public school district shall be responsible for monitoring the performance of each program where its students are placed, to ensure that the implementation of each student's IEP conforms to the applicable requirements of all applicable federal and State laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226 (Special Education). Contracting with a program in accordance with this Part does not relieve the district of the responsibility for ensuring that the student will receive all programming and related services required by the IEP, whether from one source or from multiple sources. In addition, except for emergency and student-specific placements made pursuant to 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.330 (g) or (i), no public school district shall
place any student in a special education program that is subject to the requirements of this Part, nor shall the provider of any program accept placement of any student under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code, unless all the following conditions have been met:

a) The program has been SBE approved for the school year for which placement is sought;

b) The allowable costs for the program have been established pursuant to Section 14-7.02 of the School Code;

c) The district has made the certification of inability to meet the student's needs to the State Superintendent, if required pursuant to Section 14-7.02 of the School Code, and the State Superintendent has found the district in substantial compliance with Section 14-4.01 of the School Code;

d) The program has been SBE approved for all of the categories of impairment applicable to the student and requiring services as identified in the IEP;

e) The program has been SBE approved for the age range that includes the age of the student;

f) The district has determined that educational programming and related services specified on the student's IEP will be provided to the student. The use of a facility or program in accordance with this Part does not relieve the district of the responsibility for ensuring that the student will receive all programming and related services required by the IEP, whether from one source or from multiple sources; and

g) The district and the provider have entered into the contractual agreement called for in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.330.

(Source: Emergency amendment at 46 Ill. Reg. ______, effective ____________, for a maximum of 150 days)