

PPPPSS Assessment FAQs

What should I do if I believe my child needs special education?

If your child is having difficulty functioning effectively in a general education program without special assistance, then your child might need special education and related services. Call the public school district where your child's private school is located for assistance. Should your child need assessment for special education services, you will be asked to give permission for assessment in writing.

What is involved in an assessment for special education services?

An assessment involves gathering information about your child to determine whether your child has a disability. An assessment may include a health history, vision and hearing screening, review of school records and work samples, observation, parent/teacher interviews, as well as individual testing in the areas of academic achievement, intellectual development, language/speech communication development, motor development, social emotional/behavior, and adaptive behavior, depending on the your child's areas of need. The areas to be evaluated will be specified on the assessment plan.

How long will the assessment take?

When school is in session, the district must respond in writing to your request for an assessment within 15 days. You will be asked to sign an assessment plan. Once the district has received your signed assessment plan, the assessment must be completed and the results shared with you at an Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting within 60 days.

Your child will be assessed at one of the district's sites by a multidisciplinary team. You will be required to make your child available and transport your child to and from the designated school site within school hours. The estimated amount of time for testing is approximately 15-20 hours over multiple days.

What can I expect after the assessment?

You will be invited to a meeting which will be held to share the results of your child's assessment. If the team determines that your child has a disability and you choose to enroll your child in public school, the district where you live will offer an IEP that identifies all services that are required for your child to receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education. If you choose for your child to continue attending a non-profit, private school, the district where the private school is located will develop a service plan. Your child's plan will be reviewed annually, and a reassessment will occur every three years. If the district determines that your child is not eligible, you have the right to appeal the decision.