

3. Initial Evaluation

A Planning and Placement Team meeting is scheduled to discuss the referral. Parents receive written notification of the PPT five school days prior to the meeting. The PPT may decide an evaluation is not needed and the regular education program and services are appropriate. If the PPT decides to conduct an evaluation, the PPT, which includes the parent, designs the evaluation (*See Evaluation Study for Determination of Eligibility and Placement*). Before our District provides initial special education and related services, a full and individual initial evaluation is conducted to determine if the student is a student with a disability and to determine the education needs of the student. Parents must sign a written consent for the evaluation. See Chapter 3 for evaluation notice and consent requirements.

After the evaluation is completed, the Planning and Placement Team of qualified professionals and the parent of the student make the determination of whether the student is a student with a disability. See Chapter 1 for further details of student identification. A copy of the evaluation report and documentation of eligibility is given to the parent. Development of the IEP for a student is based upon the diagnostic findings of the evaluation study. Implementation of an IEP based upon an initial referral is not to exceed 45 school days from the date of referral or 60 school days for students placed in a private school, exclusive of the time necessary to get parent consent. (*See Individualized Education Programs.*)