

Washington County Public Schools Individualized Education Program Parental Notice

Washington County Public Schools (WCPS) service delivery model provides a continuum of special education service to children ages birth through 21, spanning from full inclusion within the regular education classroom to nonpublic/residential placements. Placement decisions are made by the Individualized Educational Program (IEP) team based on a thorough analysis of the student's progress through all data and evaluations pertinent to each student's individualized needs and strengths. All decisions regarding the placement of a child with a disability in a special education service delivery model will be made by an IEP team in consultation with the parents or guardians of the child and consistent with the least restrictive environment requirements of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. If placement is proposed outside of a student's home school, the team must consider what benefits the student will gain in the more restrictive setting that cannot be gained in the lesser restrictive environment.

The following is a comprehensive list of all least restrictive environments, in which WCPS provide specialized instruction:

- Inside General Education 80% or more
 - regular class with special education/related services provided within regular classes;
 - regular class with special education/related services provided outside regular classes; or
 - regular class with special education services provided in resource rooms.
- Inside General Education 40-79%
 - resource rooms with special education/related services provided within the resource room; or
 - resource rooms with part-time instruction in a regular class.
- Inside General Education less than 40%
 - self-contained special classrooms with part-time instruction in a regular class; or
 - self-contained special classrooms with full-time special education instruction on a regular school campus.
- Regional program in a public school setting inside general education 80%
- Regional program in a public school setting inside general education 40-79%
- Regional program in a public school setting inside general education less than 40%
- Public Separate Day School
- Private Separate Day School
- Public Residential Facility
- Private Residential Facility
- Specialized instruction provided to students who meet the Maryland State Department of Education requirements for Home and Hospital Instruction

- Correctional Facility
- Parentally Placed In Private School

The service delivery model for students is as individualized as the students who are provided services. Specialized programming within the WCPS is designed to provide an appropriate education for students with disabilities. Washington County Public Schools also provides instructional time with highly qualified teachers with content area certification. The service delivery model depicted above includes services provided through regional specialized programs that provide intensive supports; including targeted skill level instruction, sensory supports, communication supports, and/or emotional and behavioral supports.

Definitions:

Correctional Facility- An institution operated through the Department of Juvenile Services in which students receive their education.

Inside General Education- Time within the established curriculum of regular education classes.

Private Residential Facility- A placement the IEP team makes when a residential facility is required for a student to make educational progress on IEP goals.

Private Separate Day School- A placement the IEP team makes when a school outside of the public school system's oversight is required for a student to make educational progress on IEP goals.

Public Separate Day School- A placement the IEP team makes when a school outside of a regular educational day school is required for a student to make educational progress on IEP goals however, the school remains under control of the public school system.

Regional (specialized) program- A program where students from other schools may attend to receive their education based on each student's strengths and needs.

Sensory supports- Support to assist a student in areas of auditory, visual, tactile, taste vestibular (balance/spatial orientation), olfactory (smell), proprioceptive (awareness of positioning parts of the body, and strength of effort employed in movement) senses and needs.

Specialized programming- Specialized instruction to the needs of a student through the content, method of instruction, or presentation of the instruction to ensure the student can meet the educational standards within the public agency.

Targeted skill level instruction- Instruction tailored to the specific level a student is within a particular area of content.