

CHILD FIND REQUIREMENTS & PRE-REFERRAL PROCEDURES

Child Find

- A. Each school district is required to “find” any student with a disability within their jurisdiction.
- B. Failure to implement procedures for Child Find violates a disabled student’s right to a free and appropriate public education (FAPE).
- C. Child Find includes appropriate procedures for screening and evaluating students suspected of having a disability.

Response to Intervention

- A. It is the responsibility of each school to establish procedures for the implementation of Response to Intervention (RTI). This includes procedures for universal screening, progress monitoring, problem-solving, and tiers of interventions and supports.
- B. RTI procedures are a required component of initial case study evaluations for students suspected of having a Specific Learning Disability. RTI procedures are highly encouraged for evaluations for students suspected of having other disabilities.
- C. Per the Office of Special Education Program’s (OSEP) guidance, districts cannot deny a request for an evaluation solely on the basis of RTI. That is, a district cannot deny a request because the student had not yet received interventions in a multi-tiered system.
- D. Documentation of implementation of research-based interventions, including type of intervention, length of intervention, duration of intervention, and charting of the student’s rate of progress must be completed as part of the RTI process.
- E. Schools may opt to hold additional types of problem-solving team meetings (e.g., PBIS meetings).
- F. Although interventions should be provided in order to determine if specialized instruction will be required, this should not delay a student

from being referred for an evaluation if such a delay would prohibit the child with a disability from receiving a free and appropriate public education. This is especially true for students suspected of having an Intellectual Disability, Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment, Deafness, Deaf-Blind, Multiple Disabilities, Traumatic Brain Injury, Other Health Impairment, or Autism.