

Sec. 1. NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

No qualified student with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any service, program, or activity provided or offered by Life School.

42 U.S.C. 12132; 29 U.S.C. 794(a); 34 CFR 104.4(a).

Sec. 2. FREE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION

Eligible students with disabilities shall enjoy the right to a free appropriate public education (“FAPE”), which may include instruction in the regular classroom, instruction through special teaching, or instruction through approved contracts. Instruction shall be supplemented by the provision of related services when appropriate.

Education Code 29.003(a).

FAPE means special education and related services that:

1. Have been provided at public expense, under public supervision and direction, and without charge;
2. Meet standards set out by Texas Education Agency (“TEA”);
3. Include an appropriate preschool, elementary school, or secondary school education; and
4. Are provided in conformity with the student’s individualized education program (“IEP”).

20 U.S.C. 1401(9); 34 CFR 300.13, 300.17, 300.36.

Sec. 3. LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT

Life School shall ensure that, to the maximum extent possible, children with disabilities shall be educated with children who are not disabled. Special classes, special schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment shall occur only when the nature or severity of the child’s disability is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be satisfactorily achieved.

20 U.S.C. 1412(a)(5); 34 CFR 300.114(a)(2).

Sec. 4. DISCIPLINE

All disciplinary actions regarding students with disabilities shall be determined in accordance with applicable federal regulations, Education Code Chapter 37, 19 Administrative Code 89.1053, and Life School policy.

19 TAC 89.1050(g).

Sec. 5. INSTRUCTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND SETTINGS

Instructional arrangements and settings shall be based on the individual needs and IEPs of eligible students receiving special education services. Instructional arrangements and settings include:

1. Mainstream: services provided in the regular classroom in accordance with the student's IEP;
2. Homebound: services provided at home or hospital bedside;
3. Hospital class: services provided in a classroom, hospital facility, or residential care and treatment facility not operated by Life School;
4. Speech therapy: speech therapy services provided, whether in a regular education classroom or other setting;
5. Resource room/services: services provided in a setting other than the regular classroom for less than 50% of the regular school day;
6. Self-contained (mild, moderate, or severe) regular campus: services provided to a student who is in a self-contained program for 50% or more of the regular school day on a regular school campus;
7. Off home campus: services provided in an interdistrict program, through Life School personnel in a non-Life School facility, or at a Life School campus that provides only special education and related services.
8. Nonpublic day school: services provided through a contractual agreement with a nonpublic school;
9. Vocational adjustment class/program: services provided to a student who is placed on a job with regularly scheduled direct involvement by special education personnel in the implementation of the student's IEP;
10. Residential care and treatment facility (not Life School resident): services provided to students who reside in care and treatment facilities and whose parents do not reside within the boundaries of Life School;
11. State supported living center: services provided to a student who resides at a state supported living center when the services are provided at the state supported living center location; or

12. Other program options, including contracts with other districts and programs approved by TEA.

19 TAC 89.63(c), (f).

Sec. 6. RELATED SERVICES

“Related services” means transportation, and such developmental, corrective, and other supportive services as may be required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education, including the early identification and assessment of disabling conditions in children.

The term includes speech-language pathology and audiology services, interpreting services, psychological services, physical and occupational therapy, recreation, including therapeutic recreation, social work services, school nurse services designed to enable a child with a disability to receive a FAPE as described in the child’s IEP, counseling services, including rehabilitation counseling, orientation and mobility services, and medical services, except that medical services shall be for diagnostic and evaluation purposes only.

The term does not include a medical device that is surgically implanted, the optimization of the device’s functioning, or the replacement of such device.

20 U.S.C. 1401(26); 34 CFR 300.34.