



SECTION 504 PARENT/GUARDIAN RIGHTS AND PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a federal law prohibiting discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving federal financial assistance. Section 504 defines a person with a disability as anyone who has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working, eating, sleeping, standing, lifting, bending, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating or operation of a bodily function.

The Del Mar Union School District has the responsibility to provide accommodations and services to eligible individuals with disabilities. The district acknowledges its responsibility under Section 504 to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel and students. No discrimination against any person with a disability shall knowingly be permitted in any program or practice in the school.

The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed concerning decisions about your child and to inform you of your rights if you disagree with any of these decisions. The following is a description of your rights under Section 504 and other federal laws.

1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination based on a disability.
2. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation, program, or placement of your child.
3. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with other students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school make reasonable accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school-related activities.
4. Have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided for students without disabilities.
5. Have evaluation, educational, and placement decisions made based upon a variety of information sources and by individuals who know the student, disability, evaluation data, and placement options.
6. Give your child an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the school and/or the Del Mar Union School District.
7. Examine and obtain a copy of all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program, and placement.
8. Use the school or Del Mar Union School District complaint procedure to file a grievance if you feel your child is being discriminated against because of his/her disability.
9. Request mediation or an impartial due process hearing related to decisions or actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program or placement. You and your child may take part of the hearing and have an attorney present at your expense.
10. File a formal complaint with the regional Office for Civil Rights. The office is part of the U.S. Department of Education. The regional office is located at 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-1100.

The person in the Del Mar Union School District who is responsible for the Del Mar Union School District's compliance with Section 504 is Jenni Huh, Director of Student Services, (858) 755-9301 ext 3694, jhuh@dmusd.org.