



The Laboratory Charter School of Communication and Languages

Policy

Prevention of Inappropriate Identification of Students by Race/Ethnicity by Disability Category

Resolution # 032020249

POLICIES

Yes, the Local Education Agency (LEA) has established policies to prevent inappropriate identification of students by race/ethnicity by disability category. These policies and procedures are designed to ensure that students are identified for special education services based on their individual needs and educational criteria, rather than on their race or ethnicity. Here are some key components of the LEA's approach:

- 1. Non-Discriminatory Practices:** The LEA strictly prohibits any form of discrimination based on race or ethnicity in the identification, evaluation, placement, or provision of special education services. All decisions regarding special education eligibility and services are made solely based on the individual needs of the student, in accordance with legal regulations.
- 2. Culturally Responsive Practices:** The LEA promotes culturally responsive practices that recognize and respect the diverse backgrounds and experiences of students and their families. Staff members receive training on cultural competence and awareness to ensure that assessments and interventions are culturally sensitive and unbiased.
- 3. Data Monitoring and Analysis:** The LEA regularly monitors and analyzes data related to special education identification and placement to identify any disparities based on race or ethnicity. This includes examining enrollment data, referral rates, evaluation outcomes, and placement decisions to detect and address any disproportionate representation.
- 4. Review of Referral and Evaluation Processes:** The LEA conducts periodic reviews of its referral and evaluation processes to ensure that they are fair, transparent, and free from bias. This includes examining the criteria used for referring students for special education evaluation and ensuring that assessments are culturally and linguistically appropriate.

5. **Professional Development:** Ongoing professional development opportunities are provided to staff to enhance their knowledge, skills, and instructional practices. Training sessions may focus on topics such as cultural competence, implicit bias, and equitable assessment practices to prevent inappropriate identification of students by race/ethnicity.

6. **Parent and Community Engagement:** The LEA actively engages parents and the broader community in the special education process. This includes providing information about special education rights and services in multiple languages, soliciting feedback from families, and collaborating with community organizations to address any concerns related to disproportionate representation.

By adhering to these policies and procedures, the LEA aims to ensure that all students, regardless of race or ethnicity, have equitable access to special education services and are not overrepresented or underrepresented based on their cultural background. Compliance with legal regulations, including those related to disproportionate representation, is a fundamental aspect of the LEA's commitment to promoting fairness and equity in the special education system.

PROCEDURES

To prevent inappropriate identification of students by race/ethnicity by disability category, the Local Education Agency (LEA) implements comprehensive procedures and practices. These procedures are designed to ensure that students are identified for special education services based on their individual needs and educational criteria, rather than on their race or ethnicity. Here are the key procedures:

1. **Non-Discriminatory Practices:** The LEA strictly prohibits any form of discrimination based on race or ethnicity in the identification, evaluation, placement, or provision of special education services. All decisions regarding special education eligibility and services are made solely based on the individual needs of the student, without regard to their race or ethnicity.
2. **Culturally Responsive Practices:** The LEA promotes culturally responsive practices that recognize and respect the diverse backgrounds and experiences of students and their families. Staff members receive training on cultural competence and awareness to ensure that assessments and interventions are culturally sensitive and unbiased.
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