

RIGHT TO FAPE

Private school and homeschooled students eligible for special education services have no individual right to receive some or all of the special education and/or related services that the child would receive if enrolled in a public school. Eligible private school students with disabilities may, at any time, enroll in the public school to which they are zoned where an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), designed to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE), will be developed and implemented.

OFFICE OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS

The Memphis Shelby County Schools' program for private school students operates under the Department of Exceptional Children and Health Services, and is supported by:

Advisor
Clerk
Instructional Facilitator
Occupational Therapy Staff Physical
Therapy Staff
School Psychologists
Special Education Teachers Speech-
Language Pathology Staff
Vision and Hearing Specialists



FUNDING

Memphis Shelby County Schools allocates a proportionate amount of federal funds to serve children with disabilities attending private and home schools located within Memphis Shelby County Schools' jurisdiction. The funding amount is determined annually according to a formula found in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (70 U.S.C. 1d12(a)(10)(A), 34 U.S.C. 300.133). Cost of evaluations is not deducted from the proportionate amount of federal funds available to eligible students for services.

DISPUTES

Disputes arising from provision of services that cannot be settled locally are subject to State of Tennessee administrative complaint procedures. Due process and mediation procedures are not available to disputes regarding services. However, rights to due process and mediation proceedings do apply to disputes regarding the evaluation process.

*'ID6A—Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §1400 ct stq, 34 CFR §300 ct svq. *Special education and related services provided to parentally- placed private school students, including materials, texts, and equipment are secular, neutral, and non-ideological in nature.*

Think a child may need services?

CONTACT US TODAY!

Department of Exceptional Education
2930 Airways Boulevard
Memphis, TN 38116
privateschoolsupport@scsk12.org

901-416-1350

The Memphis Shelby County Schools logo is positioned at the top center of the banner. It features a circular emblem with a torch, an open book, and the words 'MEMPHIS SHELBY COUNTY SCHOOLS' around the perimeter. The background of the emblem is blue with white stars.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS

A colorful illustration of a stack of five books in various colors (red, orange, green, yellow, blue) with a red apple on top. The stack is set against a background of a blue sky with white clouds and a red and blue arc at the bottom.

**EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION
(901) 416-1350
WWW.SCSK12.ORG**

CHILD FIND PROCESS

Each local education agency (LEA) must locate, identify, and evaluate all children with disabilities who are enrolled by their parents in private, including religious, elementary and secondary schools located in the school district served by the LEA. Students suspected of having an educational disability are referred for an assessment/evaluation in accordance with Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Contact the SCS Office of Private Schools and Compliance if you suspect a child of having a disability.

EVALUATION & ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

Memphis Shelby County Schools provides comprehensive evaluations to students suspected of having any IDEA* disability. These evaluations are at no cost to parent or non-public school. Once contacted, Memphis Shelby County Schools will initiate the process for initial evaluation and eligibility determination. The timeframe for this process is comparable to that for students attending public schools in the LEA. Special education and/or related services will be determined after eligibility is established by the team.

SERVICES

No parentally-placed private school child with a disability has an individual right to receive some or all of the special education and/or

related services that the child would receive if enrolled in the public school. Memphis Shelby County Schools provides services to eligible private school students to the extent that proportionate funding is available. Decisions about the services that will be provided to parentally-placed private school children with disabilities will be determined in the service plan meeting. Individualized Service Plans (ISP) are written for private school students with disabilities who receive special education services through Memphis Shelby County Schools. A team composed of representatives from Memphis Shelby County Schools, private school representatives, parents, teachers, and the child, when appropriate, are included in developing the ISP.

Services to **eligible** private school students include:

- Assistive Technology Equipment and Support
- Hearing Support
- Occupational Therapy
- Orientation and Mobility Support
- Physical Therapy
- Special Education Support
- Speech and/or Language Therapy
- Vision Support

LOCATION OF SERVICES

Special education and related services are provided either on-site at the private school or at a location designated by Memphis Shelby County Schools, with the parents' convenience

in mind. Typically, all services will be provided on-site except for speech and/or language therapy services.

Personnel providing services for private school students meet the same standards as personnel providing services for public school students.

MONITORING

Memphis Shelby County Schools' personnel monitor and evaluate services provided to private school students with disabilities using the same protocol as those students in public schools.

CONSULTATION

To ensure timely and meaningful consultation, Memphis Shelby County Schools will consult with private school representatives of parentally-placed private school children with disabilities regarding special education and related services. Please contact our office to discuss parentally-placed private school children with disabilities identified through the child find process and how they can meaningfully participate in special education and related services.

