

# **Specially Designed Instruction (SDI)**

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**May 18, 2023**

# Agenda

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Review the changes to [Rule 2360.2.12](#)

Define Specially Designed Instruction and the Delivery of SDI

Share resources related to SDI

# Rule 2360.2.12 – Special Education Service

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On July 1, 2023, the definition of special education will essentially default to the federal definition.

The major change is what has been eliminated from the rules related to funding requirements.

There are different considerations for expending funds and allowable costs and the definition of special education ultimately impacts Series 1300, [Rules for Special Education Finance and Census Based Funding](#).

# **Rule 2360.2.12 – Special Education Service, continued**

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To see a visual representation of the changes to this rule, please see the [State Board Rules Side by Side](#), which reflects the major differences in bold.

# Special Education Service Defined

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(a) Special education means specially designed instruction, at no cost to the parent, to meet the unique needs of an eligible child with a disability, including instruction conducted in the classroom, in the home, in hospitals and institutions, and in other settings; and instruction in physical education. Specially designed instruction means adapting, as appropriate, to the needs of an eligible child, the content, methodology, or delivery of instruction to address the unique needs of the child that result from the child's disability; and to ensure access of the child to the general curriculum, so that the child can meet the educational standards within the State that apply to all children.

# Special Education Service Defined, continued

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(b) Special education includes each of the following, if the services otherwise meets the requirements of subsection (a):

1. Speech-language pathology services;
2. Travel training;
3. Vocational education;
4. Co-teaching.

# Specially Designed Instruction

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SDI is planned, organized, and meaningful and it is a foundational component of an IEP.

SDI addressed any area of individual need.

SDI directly supports the goals in a student's IEP.

SDI is not differentiated instruction, accommodations, active learning strategies, or other activities designed to facilitate learning for all students.

SDI is explicit, intentional, and systematic.

SDI can be provided in any location.

# Specially Designed Instruction, continued

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SDI is customized for the student.

SD is based upon the specific skill the student is working on.

SDI is not a statement of the academic content standard being taught.

SDI is the individualized instruction that is provided to support students in mastering their annual goals.

How does the student's disability impact access and progress in the enrolled grade level curriculum and to what extent do we deploy SDI to meet those needs?



# SDI: Content, Methodology, and Delivery of Instruction

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Specially designed instruction means adapting, as appropriate, to the needs of an eligible child, **the content, methodology, or delivery of instruction...**

- Content: The What
- Methodology: The How
- Delivery of Instruction: The Who, The Where, The When

# Delivery of SDI

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SDI is the core responsibility of special education teachers.

School based team members, such as related service providers and counselors can also provide SDI.

An intervention specialist with deep content knowledge and expertise is qualified to provide SDI.

# Delivery of SDI, continued

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A paraprofessional is allowed to provide SDI only when a certified special education teacher designs the SDI and the paraprofessional is under the supervision of the certified special educator.

A paraeducator may not: develop lesson plans, introduce new material/content, select materials for the lesson, assign grades, be responsible for any IEP related responsibilities, and/or be responsible for determining and reporting student progress.

# Delivery of SDI, continued

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Certified special education teachers and certified general education teachers with support from special education teachers can work together to align and integrate the specially designed instruction for each student.

The IDEA states that the SEA must establish and maintain qualifications to ensure that personnel necessary to carry out the purposes of this part are appropriately and adequately prepared and trained, including that those personnel have the content knowledge and skills to serve children with disabilities.

# Resources

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[Webinar: Special Education Definition](#) and [Slide deck](#)

This prerecorded webinar reviews the special education rule change on the special education definition, including what it is and what has been removed. It details Specially Designed Instruction (SDI), who can deliver SDI, and makes connections across Early MTSS and VTmtss.

[Specially Designed Instruction Handout Part I](#) and [Part II](#)

These guidance documents provide the federal definition for special education and clarify considerations for what constitutes as Specially Designed Instruction.

# Contact

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