

**SPECIAL EDUCATION POLICY AND PURPOSE**

MSAD #49 shall comply with and implement the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Title 20-A, Chapters 300 and 303, of the Maine Revised Statutes, as supplemented by Chapter 101 of the Maine Department of Education Regulations. To that end, MSAD #49 shall provide a free, appropriate education to all exceptional children for whom MSAD #49 has legal responsibility who:

- A. Have reached age 5 on or before October 15 of the current school year;
- B. Have not graduated from secondary school or reached 20 years of age before the start of the current school year (July 1);
- C. Have an exceptionality as defined by the Maine Unified Special Education Regulations that adversely affects their educational performance; and
- D. Require the provision of regular and/or special education services and, if needed, supportive services in order that the student may benefit from an elementary or secondary educational program.

NOTE: A free appropriate public education shall be provided in the least restrictive educational alternative as determined by the student's IEP Team and set forth in his/her IEP, all in accordance with the Maine Unified Special Education Regulations.

Legal Reference: Title 20A MRSA Sec. 7201  
3.1 MUSER, Chap. 101, I, 1.  
IDEA 20 USC. §§ 1400 et seq. as amended and 34 CFR Parts 300 and 303

Adopted: 5/2/2013