

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction
Exceptional Children Division
301 North Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-2825

Prerequisites For Non-Public Schools' Exceptional Children Program Approval

The following components are essential for approval of a Non-Public Exceptional Children Program. These items must be in place before the review team conducts an on-site visit.

1. **Non-Public Facility Recognition** - Each non-public facility must be registered with and recognized as a non-public school by the Division of Non-Public Education, before Exceptional Children Program approval may be initiated. Contact the Director, Division of Non-Public Education, 1309 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1309, (919) 733-4276.
2. **Basic Curriculum** - A structured curriculum of sequential instruction is provided at appropriate levels, comparable to the standard course of study in public schools.
 - A. Appropriate written curricula are available for students with disabilities.
 - B. Instructional adaptations are available for students with disabilities when required by the IEP.
3. **Instructional Time** - Adequate time for instruction is provided during the regular school day and throughout the school year. The annual school calendar provides for a minimum of 180 days of instruction, the length of school day is at least 5.5 hours and the time provided is the same for student with disabilities as for their non-disabled peers, unless otherwise specified in their IEP.
4. **Instructional Environment** - The instructional environment is conducive to effective teacher-student interaction and the achievement of positive learning results.
 - A. Sufficient space, furniture, and instructional equipment are provided in each classroom to permit positive learning results.
 - B. Buildings are accessible and safe for students with disabilities.
 - C. An adequate supply of appropriate instructional materials, textbooks, and supplementary resources is readily available.
 - D. Class size is maintained in accordance with *Policies Governing Programs and Services for Children with Disabilities*.
5. **Individualized Education Program (IEP)** - Each student with a disability enrolled has an IEP before special education and related services are initiated and all required components of the IEP are completed.
 - A. All required components are included on the IEP form.
 - B. The Local Education Agency placing the student in the non-public school is involved in the development of the IEP as well as any re-evaluation and placement decisions.

6. **Evaluation of Learning** - A regular standardized procedure for evaluation of student learning is in use.
 - A. Provide for students with disabilities to meet statewide standards for promotion from grades 3, 5, and 8 and high school graduation.
 - B. IEPs are reviewed annually or as often as deemed necessary and progress toward the annual goals is reported concurrent with the issuance of report cards.

7. **Personnel Qualifications** - Teachers and related services personnel are qualified to carry out assigned responsibilities.
 - A. Teachers hold a current special education license or are working toward licensure.

 - B. Related services are provided by personnel licensed or certified by the appropriate state agency or board.
 - C. Staff development is available to improve competencies and skills, encourage professional growth, and address student needs.

8. **Physical Facilities** - A safe and healthy physical environment that meets the fire, safety, and sanitation standards established by state and local authorities. Buildings and equipment used by students are accessible.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact the Director, Exceptional Children Division at (919) 807-3969.

Statement of Assurance

I affirm that the _____ School meets the prerequisites listed above except those in which variance is noted and a written explanation is provided.

Signature: _____ Title: _____

Date: _____

Return one copy of this form along with the written explanations (if applicable).

Mail to: **Barbara Scriven, Monitoring Consultant**
Public Schools of North Carolina
Exceptional Children Division
6356 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-6356