

September 23, 2021

RE: 2021-2022 Special Education Operating Procedures Requirement

Beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, Local Education Agencies (LEAs) were required to upload, or link, special education operating procedures along with LEA local policies, to the Legal Framework website. The requirement for LEAs to provide local, special education operating procedures in the Legal Framework is part of the Texas Education Agency's (TEA's) efforts to ensure all LEAs have policies, programs, and procedures that meet IDEA's Child Find and FAPE requirements.

During the 2020-2021 school year, LEAs were required to upload or link special education operating procedures in the Legal Framework related to: Child Find, Evaluation, and FAPE. Once again, LEAs are required to upload or link special education operating procedures in these areas for the 2021-2022 school year. This must be completed by October 29, 2021.

No additional operating procedure areas are being required in 2021-2022. LEAs may access the special education operating procedure templates from the 2020-2021 school year for the areas of Child Find, Evaluation, and FAPE for use in the 2021-2022 school year. LEAs are not required to use the templates so long as the operating procedures uploaded or linked to the Legal Framework contain elements consistent with those outlined in the available templates.

For additional information related to the required special education operating procedures and guidance to assist LEAs in uploading or linking these materials, please review the June 2020 materials available on the [Recent TEA Guidance page](#) linked here.

Please be advised that beginning in the 2022-2023 school year, the timeline for uploading or linking special education operating procedures will return to the pre-COVID-19 pandemic requirement and be completed in August rather than in October. In the 2022-2023 school year, special education operating procedures will be uploaded or linked to the Legal Framework on, or before, August 31, 2022, and additional operating procedures will be required.