

Required Annual Dissemination

For Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Visually Impaired, or Deaf-Blind

Annually, information must be given by the local education agency (LEA) [PRIOR TO CONSIDERING PLACEMENT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES](#) for students from birth to 21 about the [Texas School for the Deaf \(TSD\)](#) for students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and the [Texas School for the Blind And Visually Impaired \(TSBVI\)](#) for students with visual impairments. Students who are deafblind should receive information from both schools.

The Texas Education Code states the written information **MUST** include:

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- 1) the availability of programs offered by state institutions for which the district's students may be eligible;
 - 2) the eligibility requirements and admission conditions imposed by each of those state institutions; and
 - 3) the rights of students in regard to admission to those state institutions and in regard to appeal of admission decisions.

This information is used to educate families on the continuum of services available for these students. After developing the individualized education program (IEP) or individual family service plan (IFSP), and before considering placement, the committee must share this information with the parent(s)/guardian(s) and discuss where the IEP/IFSP would be appropriately implemented.



Best Practices:

- Document dissemination and discussion of this information during the IFSP meetings (ages 0-2) and during the Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) meetings (ages 3-21) in the deliberations or minutes page.
 - Consider a separate signature page documenting the family has received the information, and it was discussed annually.
- Explain the continuum of services and that TSD/TSBVI is one option.
- Explain the differences between your LEA's and TSD/TSBVI's services.
- If prior to the meeting the parent(s)/guardian(s) inform you they are interested in the student attending TSD/TSBVI, consider inviting a representative from the institution to attend the ARD/IFSP meeting and review the printed information with the family.
- If the student will attend one of these institutions:
 - Discuss how your LEA will support and monitor the student.
 - Discuss how the LEA and TSD/TSBVI will coordinate to ensure a successful transition to and from the facility.

The written information LEAs must share may be accessed here at [TSD](#) and or [TSBVI](#). Please note the TSBVI information is not complete, please also share [3.3 Comprehensive Programs from the District Guide](#). Also, the TSD information is not complete and the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) would also need to be shared.

If you ever have a question, concern, comment, suggestion, or find a broken link within this document, please email the TEA Division of Special Education Programs at sped@tea.texas.gov.