

OKLAHOMA CHAPTER 19. REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER ACT

70 Okl. St. § 1210.272 (2003) § 1210.272. Purpose

The purposes of the Regional Education Service Center Act are: 1. To expand the services of the Regional Education Service Centers, personnel, and certain selected material to ensure that students with learning difficulty or exceptional capability which shall include any gifted child will receive proper screening, diagnosis, and evaluation or consultation in order to benefit from an appropriate public education; 2. To provide an educational screening program for students in every school district in the state and services to assist in the identification, location and evaluation of children with disabilities who are in need of special education and related services in accordance with the IDEA; and 3. To provide Regional Education Service Centers to assist and coordinate with local educational agencies for educational evaluation and in meeting their obligations for child identification in accordance with federal requirements under the IDEA. It is not the intent of the Regional Education Service Center Act to supplant present or future special education appropriations or to reduce the number of present or proposed special education classes. It is intended by the Regional Education Service Center Act that the State of Oklahoma meet its responsibility to ensure that every student in the public schools throughout the state has the opportunity to receive an appropriate education for the benefit of his future life in society. It is further intended by the Regional Education Service Center Act that guidelines shall be promulgated to permit curriculum materials to be utilized by the student's teacher for such period of time as is necessary to assist said student during the school year.

§ 1210.273. Definitions As used in the Regional Education Service Center Act, except as the context may otherwise require:

1. "Regional education service centers" means educational, administrative, service and evaluation centers, hereinafter referred to as "centers" or "service centers"; 2. "Department" means the State Department of Education; 3. "Board" means the Oklahoma State Board of Education; 4. "IDEA" means the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), P.L. No. 101-476; 5. "Educational screening" means the implementation of accepted procedures for identification of children who may have special learning needs and may be eligible for special education and related services in accordance with the IDEA; 6. "Evaluation" means procedures used in accordance with federal laws and regulations to determine whether a child has a disability and the nature and extent of the special education and related services that the child needs. The term means procedures used selectively with an individual child and does not include basic tests administered to or procedures used with all children in a school, grade, or class. Provided, however, that no child shall be

initially evaluated whose parent or legal guardian has not filed a written consent for such evaluation with the local board of education; and 7. "Readiness screening" means the implementation of procedures for assessing readiness for first grade as provided in Section 1210.282 of this title. § 1210.275. **Responsibilities of service centers** There shall be at least twenty service centers which shall provide the services described herein to all the school districts in the state. Every service center shall offer the schools and school districts which they serve professional assistance in the efforts which are aimed toward the improvement of instruction for students. Each center shall provide the following services: 1. Evaluation services for the purposes of identification, evaluation and placement of children in special education programs, which shall be in accordance with the federal regulations promulgated under the IDEA, and in accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act; 2. Implementation of effective procedures, media, and equipment for acquiring and disseminating significant information and materials in accordance with the federal regulations promulgated under the IDEA; 3. Individualized learning plans, which shall include prescriptive teaching plans to teachers, for students who are having learning problems; consultation for educators and parents working with or having students with learning problems; providing special education material for special education teachers; and providing special education material on a prescriptive basis to the classroom teacher who has students with learning problems and consultation services and interpretation of evaluation data to assist parents and multidisciplinary teams in making educational placement decisions and planning for effective educational interventions in the least restrictive environment; 4. Assistance for organizing staff development, including the offering at each Center of conferences, institutes, and other in-service training for educators working with students with special needs; assistance in these programs for emphasizing the awareness, utilization and adaptation of appropriate materials, learning theory, research findings, and other appropriate topics, to assist in implementation of federal regulations concerning the comprehensive system of personnel development for educators and disseminating information to parents; and 5. Coordination and collaboration with public agencies and local school districts which are responsible for providing evaluation and other special education or related services to children with disabilities as provided under Section 1001 et seq. of Title 74, Section 13-101 et seq. of Title 70 and [Section 601.41 et seq. of Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes](#), and in accordance with the federal regulations for interagency agreements promulgated pursuant to the IDEA. Such coordination shall include cooperative efforts of local districts joining with the service center staff to engage in any

educational activities to increase the learning opportunities for teachers and any and every student in the public schools in the service center area. § 1210.276. **Analysis of educational screening--Assistance and training** A. Each service center shall provide assistance and training in analysis of educational screening to schools within the area which the center serves. The service centers shall assist school districts in initiating referrals for comprehensive evaluations for the purpose of identifying children who may be eligible for special education and related services. B. Educational screening shall be conducted by the public schools. C. The service centers shall conduct evaluations upon referral. D. Prior written notice and parental consent for evaluation shall be in accordance with the provisions of the IDEA. § 1210.279. **Rules and regulations--Dissemination of educational materials--Provision of training** The State Board of **Education** is hereby authorized to promulgate rules as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this act. The State Board of **Education** shall promulgate rules for the staffing and operation of the **service centers**, including safeguards to assure the uniform application and availability of all services of the **service centers** to all students within the area served by the **service centers**. The equitable, high quality, cost-effective and locally responsive educational services at a regional level. rules shall further provide for the withholding of funds by the State Board of **Education from any of the service centers** to assure compliance with the rules. The State Board of **Education** shall promulgate uniform rules for the testing of students. The State Board of **Education**, regional **service center** or local school district shall furnish curriculum materials for local school districts for use by the students participating in the programs. All such materials shall be delivered to the local school district by the **service centers** and shall remain in the local school district as long as prescribed by the regional **service center**. The regional **education service centers** shall acquire and disseminate significant information, materials and equipment in accordance with the IDEA. The **service centers** shall provide and assist in coordinating for the provision of workshops, short courses, and training within the respective regions and in cooperation with local schools, professional developments centers, organizations, public agencies, and institutions of higher **education** in accordance with the comprehensive system of personnel development requirements under the IDEA. The State Board of **Education** may establish and operate **Service Centers** by contract with any independent school district in the state.