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Policy Number: 313

Policy Section: 300 – Student Services

Adopted Date: May 20, 2026

Special Education - Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) at Public Expense Policy

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures and guidelines for responding to parent requests for an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Utah Special Education Rules. DaVinci Academy ensures that parents are afforded all procedural safeguards related to evaluations of students with disabilities.

II. Policy Statement

DaVinci Academy shall provide parents the opportunity to obtain an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) at public expense when the parent disagrees with an evaluation conducted by the Academy, consistent with federal and state law.

III. Definitions

Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE):

An evaluation conducted by a qualified examiner who is not employed by DaVinci Academy.

Public Expense:

The Academy either pays the full cost of the evaluation or ensures that the evaluation is otherwise provided at no cost to the parent.

IV. Parent Rights

1. A parent has the right to request an IEE at public expense if they disagree with an evaluation conducted by DaVinci Academy.
2. The request may be made verbally or in writing.
3. The Academy may ask the parent to state the reason for disagreement but shall not require an explanation.
4. A parent is entitled to one IEE at public expense each time the Academy conducts an evaluation with which the parent disagrees.

V. Academy Response to Request

Upon receipt of a parent request for an IEE, DaVinci Academy shall, without unnecessary delay:

1. Approve the request and provide information about obtaining an IEE; or
2. Initiate a due process hearing to demonstrate that the Academy's evaluation is appropriate.



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If a hearing decision determines that the Academy's evaluation is appropriate, the parent retains the right to obtain an IEE, but not at public expense.

VI. Criteria for Independent Evaluators

Evaluators selected to conduct an IEE must meet criteria consistent with those used by DaVinci Academy, including:

- Appropriate licensure, certification, or credentials
- Compliance with IDEA and Utah evaluation requirements
- Competence in the area(s) of suspected disability

DaVinci Academy shall not impose conditions or timelines that interfere with the parent's right to obtain an IEE.

VII. Location of Evaluation

1. The parent may select any qualified evaluator who meets the Academy's criteria.
2. Upon request, DaVinci Academy shall provide a list of qualified evaluators; however, parents are not limited to the provided list.

VIII. Cost Criteria and Payment

1. DaVinci Academy shall ensure that an IEE is provided at public expense.
2. The Academy may establish reasonable cost criteria based on prevailing community rates.
3. If the cost of the selected evaluator exceeds established guidelines, the Academy may:
 - Request justification for the higher fee; or
 - Fund the IEE up to the established limit unless unique circumstances justify the additional cost.
4. Payment may be made directly to the evaluator or through reimbursement to the parent.

IX. Consideration of Evaluation Results

DaVinci Academy shall consider the results of any IEE, whether publicly or privately funded, in decisions related to:

- Eligibility determination
- Development of the Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- Educational placement
- Provision of a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)

X. Confidentiality

All information obtained through an IEE shall be maintained in accordance with applicable confidentiality requirements, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

XI. Procedural Safeguards

A copy of the Procedural Safeguards Notice shall be provided to parents:



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- Upon initial referral or request for evaluation
- Upon receipt of a request for an IEE
- Upon filing of a due process complaint

XII. Implementation

The Executive Director or designee is responsible for implementing this policy and ensuring compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

XIII. Non-Discrimination Statement

DaVinci Academy shall implement this policy in a manner that does not discriminate on the basis of disability or any other protected class.