

OKLAHOMA

STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION



JANET BARRESI
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Training for Charter Schools Regarding Children with Disabilities

April 24, 2012

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)



- IDEA is our nation's special education law. IDEA stands for *Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act*.
- The IDEA was originally enacted by Congress in 1975 to make sure that children with disabilities had the opportunity to receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE), just like other children.

How do we identify children with special needs?

Child Find is a component of IDEA that requires states and districts to identify, locate, and evaluate all children with disabilities, aged birth through 21, who are in need of early intervention (SoonerStart) or special education services.

What is required?

All children with disabilities, residing in the State, whether attending public or private schools, should be identified, located, and evaluated.



What is an evaluation?

- It is a data gathering process.
- An evaluation includes information from parents, such as special medical concern; interviews of school staff; and may include specific assessment data.
- The results of all of the above will be used to determine if a child needs special education and related services help in school.

Requirements for Evaluations

An evaluation must be:

- conducted by trained and knowledgeable persons.
- conducted in all areas related to the suspected disability
- more than just one test or assessment procedure.
- in the child's native language.
- nondiscriminatory toward the child.

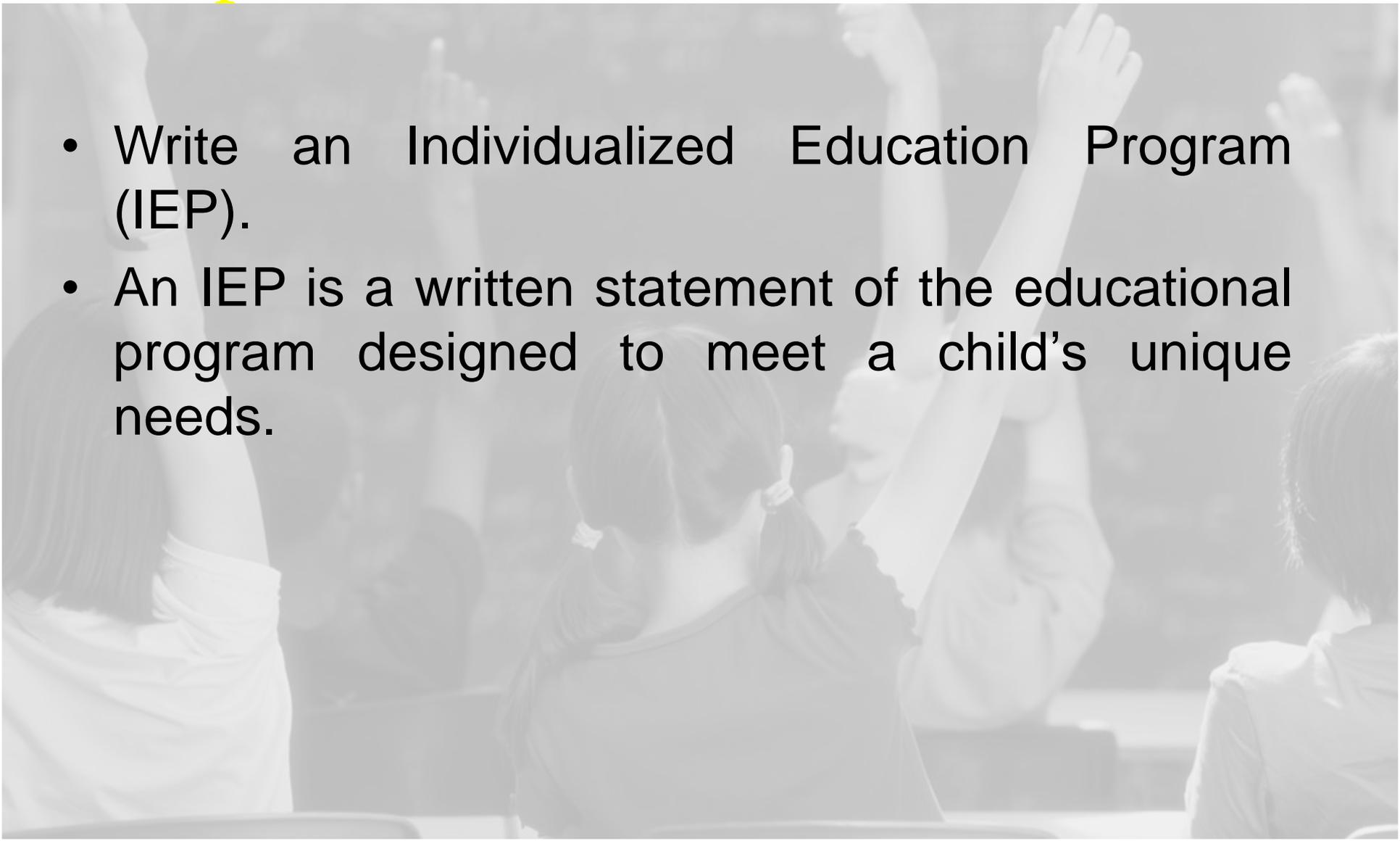
Evaluation Timeline

- The evaluation process must be completed within 45 school days from the date parent consent is obtained.
- Reevaluations must occur at least every three years.



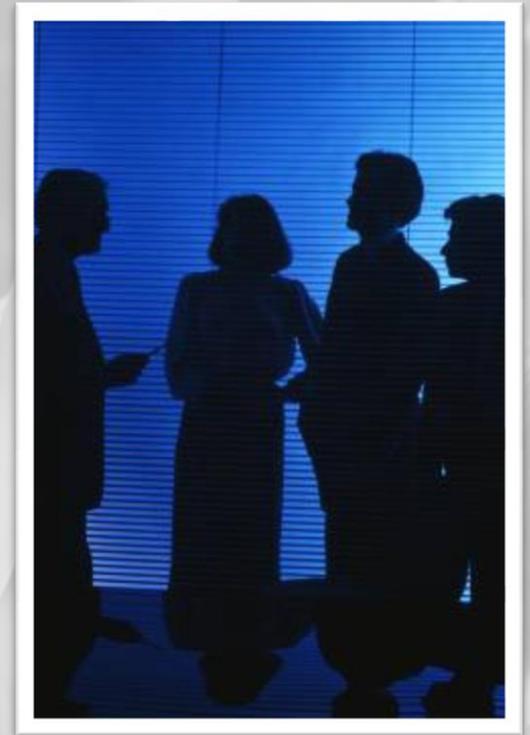
If the child is found eligible for special education, what is next?

- Write an Individualized Education Program (IEP).
- An IEP is a written statement of the educational program designed to meet a child's unique needs.



Who makes up the IEP team?

- Parent or guardian
- At least one regular education teacher
- A special education teacher
- An administrator (capable of committing district resources)
- A qualified examiner (on the initial IEP)



What is placement in the least restrictive environment (LRE)?

- A child with special needs must be exposed to the general education curriculum to the maximum extent possible with their nondisabled peers.
- There is a continuum of placements that must be considered by an IEP team when making a placement decision.
- A child on an IEP may have accommodations and modifications in the LRE.

What are accommodations?

- **Accommodations** refer to the actual teaching supports and services to show successful demonstrated learning.
- **Accommodations** should not change expectations to the curriculum grade levels.

What are examples of accommodations?

- oral test
- oral reports
- preferred seating
- study carrel
- amplified system
- Braille writer
- additional time
- taped books
- large print
- highlighted text
- reduced answer choices



What are modifications?

- **Modifications** refer to changes made to curriculum expectations in order to meet the unique needs of the student.
- **Modifications** are made when expectations are beyond the students level of ability.
- **Modifications** may be minimal or very complex depending on the student performance.
- **Modifications** must be clearly documented in the IEP.

What are examples of modifications?

- second language exemptions
- Include student in same activity, unit, or theme, but individualize the expectations and materials.
- reduced-step or simple problems
- alternate curriculum/assessments
- different grading scale or criteria
- Unique goals

Procedural Safeguards: Parent Rights in Special Education

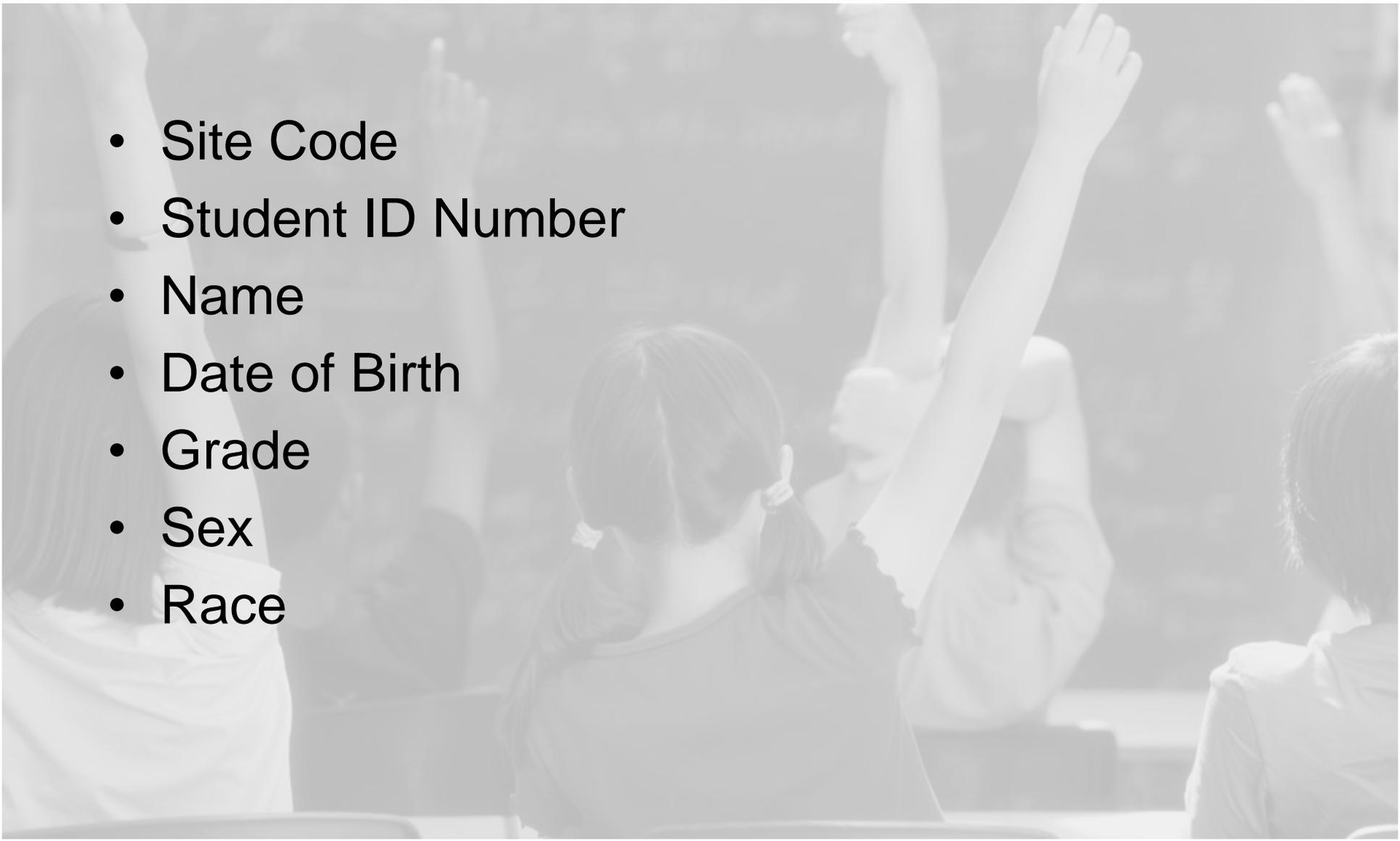


- Procedural Safeguards Notice must be given to parents upon initial placement in special education.
- The Parent Rights outline ways in which disputes can be resolved.
 - Mediation
 - Formal Complaint
 - Due Process

Federal Reporting Requirements

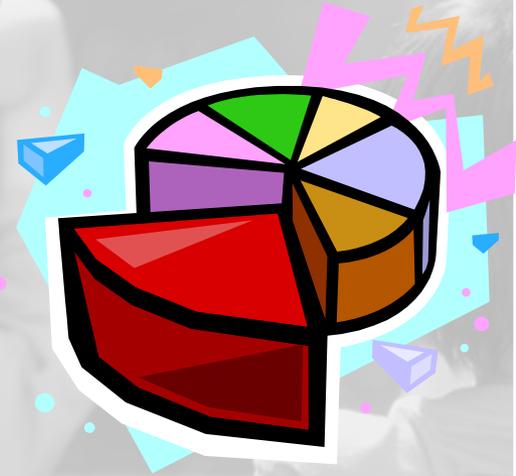
- **Child Count** - number of children on IEPs in the district on October 1st of each year.
- **Data Reports** - includes Annual Performance Report, Personnel, Related Service, Students Exiting, Suspensions.
- **Local Educational Agency (LEA) Implementation Agreement**
- **Finance Application/Budget** - how federal money is spent.

These are some of the components of Child Count

- Site Code
 - Student ID Number
 - Name
 - Date of Birth
 - Grade
 - Sex
 - Race
- 
- A grayscale photograph of a classroom. In the foreground, a young girl with her hair in pigtails is seen from behind, raising her right hand. Other children in the background are also raising their hands, indicating an active learning environment. The image is semi-transparent, allowing the text to be overlaid.

DATA/APR Report

- To be submitted at the end of each fiscal year
- Includes full-time equivalency of paraprofessional and related service personnel
- Students exiting special education
- Graduates and dropouts
- Suspensions and expulsions
- Extended school year services



Welcome

District
Profile

Child

Reports

Search

Upload

Data/
APR

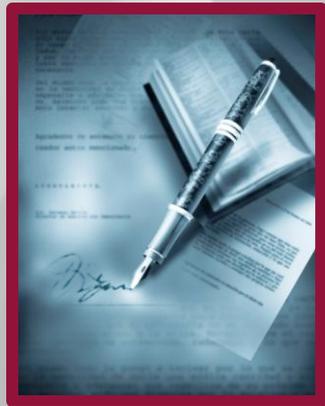
Enrollment

Admin

FY: 2008 County: 99 - STATEWIDE District: 9999 - SDE

- Districts must update and verify that their child count information is ready to submit before beginning the report
 - Include relevant discipline information for each child.
 - Enter exit dates and exit codes for all children who have left the district (do not delete the children from the list).

Local Education Agency (LEA) Implementation Agreement for Special Education in Oklahoma



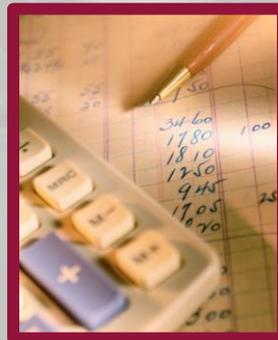
- Select whether or not you will be utilizing OSDE Special Education Forms.
- Choose whether to use the term developmental delay or categorical terms (i.e., ED) for children
- Choose whether to use severe discrepancy or Response to Intervention (RtI) methods
- Address special needs of students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries to overcome barriers based on gender, race, color, national origin, disability, and age by superintendent assurances.

Application for Funds

- The district receives their federal allocation from Special Education Services (SES) based on the following formula:
 - The base allocation is calculated from the 10/1/09 Child Count data
 - The population of the LEA, including private school population
 - LEA poverty level (free and reduced lunch count)

Application for Funds

- LEAs must submit an application for funds based on their allocation.
- The Oklahoma Cost Accounting System (OCAS) is used when reporting budget codes.
- Complete the proposed budget.
- Submit the application on the OSDE School District Reporting Site.



Maintenance of Effort

(34 CFR § 300.202)

- The LEA must maintain the level of expenditures from state and/or local funds spent on special education and related services from year to year.
- Calculation
 - The total expenditures of the LEA for special education and related services
 - Per capita amount spent on children receiving special education services
- If both the total amount and the per capita amount decrease in the second (i.e., subsequent) year, the LEA has failed to meet the MOE requirement.

Use of Funds

(34 CFR § 300.202)

- IDEA Funds must be used
 - To pay the **excess costs** of special education and related services
 - To **supplement** (and not supplant) state and local funds



Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship for Students with Disabilities

- The *Lindsey Nicole Henry (LNH) Scholarship Act* (70 O.S. § 13-102.2) is a new law which became effective August 26, 2011.
- The act created a scholarship for use at a private school accredited by the State Board of Education or another accrediting association approved by the State Board of Education for students with IEPs.

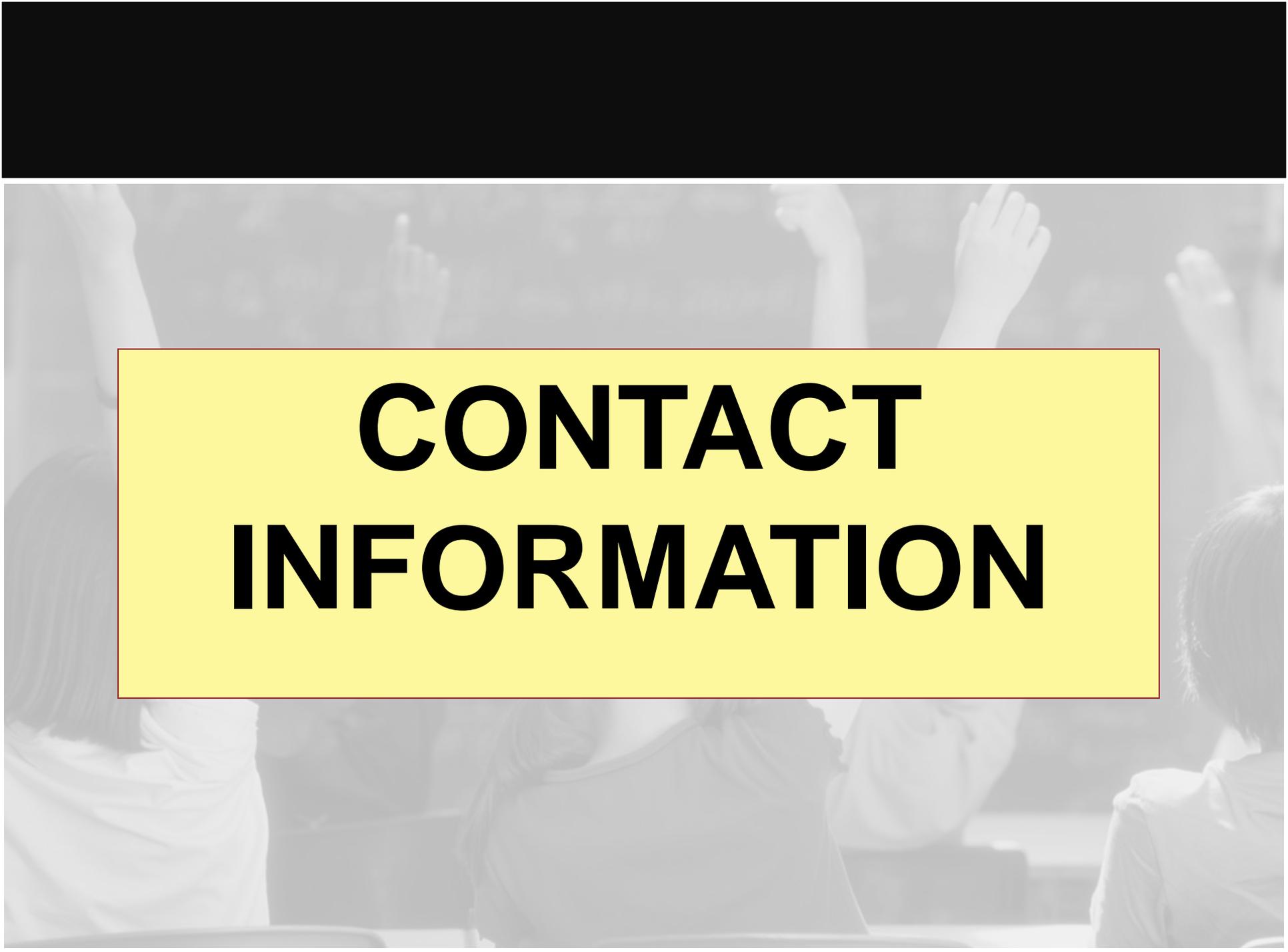
Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship for Students with Disabilities

The parent or legal guardian of a public school student with a disability may exercise their parental option and request to the OSDE to have a LNH scholarship awarded for the child to enroll in and attend a private school if specific conditions are met.



Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship for Students with Disabilities

- Parents of students who were enrolled in a public school the preceding year with an IEP and were counted at the public school for funding purposes are eligible;
- Private schools must be accredited by the State Board of Education;
- Parents must complete the application process with the OSDE by December 1 of the school year considered; and
- Public schools must notify parent annually of this option.



CONTACT INFORMATION

SOONER START

Cynthia Bernardi-Valenzuela, Associate State Director
– (405) 521-4872

Mark Sharp, Associate State Director
– (405) 521-4880

Jenny Giles, Pre-School Coordinator
– (405) 522-4513

Fax – (405) 522-1590

SPECIAL EDUCATION FINANCE

Anita Eccard, Associate State Director
– (405) 521-4865

Pam Kimery, Finance Project Coordinator
– (405) 522-3246

Karen Howard, Finance Coordinator
– (405) 521-3587 (Counties 1-44)

Carole Tomlin, Finance Coordinator
– (405) 521-2335 (Counties 45-77)

Fax – (405) 522-3503

SPECIAL EDUCATION DATA AND REPORTING

Amy Daugherty, Associate State Director
– (405) 521-4881

Fran Ferrari, Data Analyst
– (405) 521-2198

John Smith, Data Coordinator
– (405) 522-1463

Fax – (405) 522-2066

SPECIAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT

Amy Daugherty, Associate State Director
– (405) 521-4881

Jennifer Burnes, Assessment Coordinator
– (405) 521-3575

Christie Stevenson, Assessment Coordinator
– (405) 521-4866

Fax – (405) 522-1590

PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT

Mark Sharp, Associate State Director
– (405) 521-4880

Tina Spence, Personnel Development Coordinator
– (405) 521-4877

Megan Majka, Personnel Development Coordinator
– (405) 521-4864

Fax – (405) 522-3503

SPECIAL EDUCATION MONITORING

Cynthia Bernardi-Valenzuela, Associate State Director
– (405) 521-4872

Misty Haas, Monitoring Coordinator – (405) 522-1835

Keisha King, Monitoring Coordinator – (405) 522-1464

Tammy Lawson, Monitoring Coordinator – (405) 521-4867

Craig Walker, Monitoring Coordinator – (405) 522-3255

Fax – (405) 522-3503

OKLAHOMA

STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION



JANET BARRESI
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

**Oklahoma State Department of Education
Special Education Services
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 412
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105**

Dr. Rene Axtell, Assistant State Superintendent

Telephone: (405) 521-3351

FAX: (405) 522-3503