# CHILD FIND

The Regional School Unit No. 24 (RSU) Board (RSUB) seeks to ensure that all children within its jurisdiction who are school-age, five through the school year in which they turn 20, and who are in need of special education and supportive assistance, including homeless children, state wards, state agency clients, students who have been suspended or expelled, children attending private schools receiving home instruction, children incarcerated in county jails, children who have the equivalent of the (10) full days of unexcused absences or seven (7) consecutive school days of unexcused absences during a school year, highly mobile children (including migrant or homeless), and children who are suspected of being disabled and in need of special education and supportive assistance even though they are advancing from grade to grade are identified, located, and evaluated.

RSU 24 is responsible for child find for resident students attending private or public schools through public tuition or public contract and shall meet this duty either through appropriate arrangements with the receiving unit or school through direct child find services by unit personnel or contracted personnel.

The RSU's child-find responsibility shall be accomplished through an RSU-wide process which, while not a definitive or final judgment of a student's capabilities or disability, is a possible indicator of special education needs. Final identification of students with disabilities and programming for such students occurs only after an appropriate evaluation and a determination by the Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team.

This child find process shall include obtaining data on each child through multiple measures, direct assessment, and parental information regarding the child's academic and functional performance, gross and fine motor skills, receptive and expressive language skills, vision, hearing and cognitive skills. The RSU may schedule child find activities during its annual kindergarten enrollment to assist in planning for necessary special education and related service at the start of the school year. If screening occurs in the spring prior to school entry, the RSU will refer the child to the regional Child Development Services (CDS) site within 10 school days.

If the child-find process indicates that a student may require special education and/or supportive services in order to benefit from regular education, the student shall be referred to the IEP Team to determine the student's eligibility for special education services.

RSU staff, parents, outside agency representatives or other individuals with knowledge of the child may refer children to the IEP team if they believe that the student, because of a disability, may be in need of special education and supportive services in order to benefit from regular education. Such a referral should follow the RSU's Referral Policy.

Legal Reference: 34 C.F.R. § 300.111 (2006)
Ch. 101§ IV(2) (July 2015) (Me. Dept. of Ed. Rules)

First Reading: June 30, 2009
Adopted: July 21, 2009
Revised: