Administrative Regulation

Differential Standards of Proficiency for Special Education Students

A. In order to be eligible for differential standards of proficiency, a student must:

     1. Be enrolled in a special education program, and;

     2. Be identified as having a diagnosed learning handicap or disability that would preclude the pupil's attaining the district's regular proficiency standards with appropriate educational services and support, or;

     3. Be identified as a student formerly enrolled in special education whose records clearly indicate that a handicapping condition precludes successful completion of regular proficiency standards.

B. The identification of special education pupils eligible for differential standards shall be made on an individual basis.

C. To establish differential standards, the Individualized Education Program Team shall, during the development of the IEP, examine the pupil's most recent annual assessment to determine general academic and personal growth pattern.

D. Differential performance standards shall be subject to revision when the pupil's needs are reviewed at the annual assessment. Even if differential standards are established, the pupil and his/her parents will be informed of the pupil's right to attempt the district's regular standards without forfeiting the right to meet the differential standards.

E. If a pupil is removed from special education services to enroll in another program, differential standards may be maintained, provided that the differential standards were written while the pupil was receiving services. The final Individual Education Program of such a pupil will reflect the fact that the differential standards will or will not be maintained through high school graduation. It is understood that the student will be subject to meeting regular proficiency standards unless differential standards are a part of the final IEP.

Ref: EC Sections 51215, 56345
       CCR, Title 5, Section 3069
Approved: May 22, 1979
Revised: March 4, 1986
Reviewed: July 1, 2000