

Da Vinci Schools

Policies and Procedures

INDEPENDENT EDUCATION EVALUATION (IEE)

Independent Education Evaluation (IEE) at Parent Expense

The Board of Trustees acknowledged that a parent/guardian has the right to obtain an independent education evaluation (IEE) at their own expense at any time, and the Chief Executive Officer or designee shall ensure that the student's independent education program (IEP) team shall consider the results of the IEE when determining an offer of Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) for the student. While the results of the IEE will be considered by the IEP team, the results of an IEE will not dictate the IEP team's final determination of FAPE.

If a parent/guardian requests reimbursement for an IEE obtained by the parent/guardian at their own expense, the Chief Executive Officer or designee shall ensure that the unilaterally obtained IEE meets Da Vinci Schools criteria discussed in this policy prior to making a determination about reimbursement.

Independent Education Evaluation (IEE) at Public Expense

Da Vinci Schools Board of Trustees recognized that federal and state laws provide parents/guardians of students with a disability with the right to obtain an IEE, at public expense, when the parent/guardian disagrees with an assessment conducted by the local education agency (LEA) within the last two years.

The Chief Executive Officer or designee shall ensure that when a parent/guardian requests an IEE at public expense the LEA shall provide the parent/guardian with a copy of their Procedural Rights and Safeguards *and* either:

- I. Initiate a due process hearing to show that the evaluation completed by the LEA is appropriate, or
- II. Provide the parent/guardian with information about where an IEE may be obtained, the LEA's criteria applicable to IEE's, and ensure that an IEE is provided at public expense

In instances in which the LEA is granting the parent's request for an IEE, the Chief Executive Officer or designee shall ensure the following:

1. The criteria under which the IEE is obtained at public expense, including the location of the evaluation and the qualifications of the examiner, must be the same as the criteria that the LEA uses when it initiates an evaluation
2. The LEA does not impose conditions or timelines related to obtaining an IEE at public expense
3. All assessments shall be completed by persons competent to perform the assessment as determined by the LEA

4. The IEE shall be administered by an evaluation who holds equivalent certifications, licenses, or other qualifications that would be required of the LEA staff to provide similar evaluations
5. A parent/guardian shall have the opportunity to demonstrate that unique circumstances justify a waiver of any of the criteria listed above as defined by the LEA

IEE Cost Determination

The cost of determination of the IEE shall be comparable to the costs incurred by the LEA when it uses its own employees or contractors to complete an assessment. As such, the Chief Executive Officer or designee shall provide a parent/guardian with a recommended cost ceiling. The cost ceiling shall be updated once every three years and determined by averaging the costs of the following three assessors”

- a. The cost of an assessment provided by an LEA employee;
- b. The cost of an assessment provided by a neighboring LEA; and
- c. The cost of an assessment provided by a private service provider

With appropriate qualifications within 25 miles from the LEA.

Reasonable Maximum Cost	
Assistive Technology	\$1300
Auditory processing/Auditory perception	\$1800
Functional Behavioral Assessment	\$3000
Cognitive/Comprehensive Psycho-educational Evaluation	\$4500
Occupational therapy	\$1500
Physical therapy	\$1000
Speech and Language	\$1500
Functional Vision	\$1000

The Chief Executive Officer shall ensure a parent/guardian may demonstrate that unique circumstances, related to the student’s educational need(s) justify a financial waiver for any of the cost ceilings as defined by the LEA.

The Chief Executive Officer or the designee shall request that the parent/guardian voluntarily have their private health insurance pay the cost of the IEE if covered by their insurance. However, Board of Trustees recognizes that federal and state law specifies that parents/guardians are not required to have private insurance cover the cost of an IEE if the process would result in a financial cost to the parent/guardian including but not limited to:

1. A decrease in available lifetime coverage or any other benefit under an insurance policy;
2. An increase in premiums or the discontinuance of the policy, or
3. An out-of-pocket expense such as payment of a deductible amount incurred in filing a claim

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

56320-56330 Assessment

Approved and adopted by the Da Vinci Schools Board on January 15, 2020.

Update approved and adopted on October 25, 2023