

**SEATTLE SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTICE OF PARENT/STUDENT
RIGHTS UNDER SECTION 504
(FORM 504-1)**



The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (“Act”), commonly referred to as “Section 504,” is a non-discrimination statute enacted by the United States Congress. The purpose of the Act is to prohibit discrimination and to assure that disabled students have educational opportunities and benefits equal to those provided to non-disabled students.

This is a notice of your rights under Section 504. This document is not intended to address the rights afforded under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (“IDEA”) that applies to students eligible for special education services. The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction’s (“OSPI”) *Notice of Special Education Procedural Safeguards for Students and Their Families* is available through the District’s Special Education Department and sets out the rights assured by the IDEA. It is the purpose of this notice to set out the rights assured by Section 504 to those disabled students who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity who do not qualify under the IDEA.

Federal laws and regulations provide parent(s)/guardian(s) and students with the following rights:

1. You have the right to be informed by the District of your rights under Section 504 (the purpose of this notice is to advise you of those rights).
2. You have the right to have your child participate in and benefit from the District’s education program without discrimination based on disability.
3. You have the right to receive notice before the District takes any action regarding the identification, evaluation, and/or placement of your child.
4. Your child has a right to an evaluation prior to an initial Section 504 placement and any subsequent significant change in placement. You have the right to refuse consent for the initial evaluation and initial placement of your child.
5. You have the right to have your child receive a free appropriate public education (“FAPE”). This includes your child’s right to be educated with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the District provide related aids and/or services to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school activities, educational, and/or related aids and services provided to your child without cost except for those fees imposed on the parent(s)/guardian(s) of non-disabled children.
6. Your child has a right to facilities, services, and/or activities that are comparable to those provided for non-disabled students.

7. You have the right to have evaluation, educational, and/or placement decisions for your child based upon information from a variety of sources, by a group of persons who know your child, your child's evaluation data, and/or placement options.
8. You have the right to have your child be provided an equal opportunity to participate in non-academic and extracurricular activities offered by the District.
9. You have the right to examine your child's education records and obtain a copy of such records. You also have the right to receive a response to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's education records.
10. You have the right to request the District to amend your child's education records if you believe that they are inaccurate, misleading, and/or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the District refuses this request, you have the right to challenge such refusal under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA").
11. You have the right to request mediation or an impartial hearing with respect to the District's actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, and/or educational placement with opportunity for parental participation in the hearing and representation by an attorney.
12. If you wish to challenge the actions of the District in regard to your child's identification, evaluation, and/or education placement, you should file a written request for a hearing with the Section 504 Program Coordinator, MS 31-680, P.O. Box 34165, Seattle, Washington 98124-1165 using the Request for a Hearing (Form 504-7). A hearing will be scheduled before an impartial hearing officer and you will be notified in writing of the date, time, and place of the hearing.
13. If you disagree with the decision of the impartial hearing officer, you have a right to review that decision by a court of competent jurisdiction. If you prevail in a civil rights action against the District, you have the right to seek the payment of reasonable attorney's fees through the court.
14. You have the right to file a local grievance or complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or file a complaint in federal court. The address of the Regional Office that covers Seattle is:

U.S. Department of Education
Office of Civil Rights
915 Second Avenue, Room 3310
Seattle, Washington 98174-1099
Phone: (206) 607-1600
Website: www.ed.gov/OCR
Email Address: OCR.seattle@ed.gov