



Guidance to Parents seeking Enrollment in a Charter School: Enrollment of Students Receiving Special Education Services

When a student who is currently eligible for Special Education Services seeks to enroll in a Charter school the following process should be followed:

1. Parents must indicate the existence of an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) on the intent to enroll form and provide a copy of the current IEP to the charter school in which the student is intending to enroll.
2. When the charter school receives the IEP, the special education team will conduct a preliminary review the IEP to determine the student's current level of needs and services. The purpose of this review is to determine if the charter school is able to provide the student with a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) based upon the current IEP. This review will include the determination if a school has the capacity within their site-based special education program to meet all current needs and services identified in the current IEP. Currently, charter schools in Douglas County School District provide mild- moderate special education programming. To complete this review of the IEP, special education teams in charter schools may:
 - a. Contact the current school to discuss special education programming with the current special education team
 - b. Observe the student in their current school to identify needs
3. Once the preliminary review of the IEP is complete, the multidisciplinary charter school team, DCSD Special Education Coordinator for Charter Schools, and parents will meet to review and discuss the student's needs as outlined in the IEP to determine if the charter school is able to provide a FAPE.
 - a. If the team determines the charter school is able to provide a FAPE for the student, the student may be offered enrollment and the multidisciplinary charter school team will schedule an IEP matriculation meeting with the student's current school
 - b. If the team determines the charter school is unable to provide a FAPE for the student the DCSD Special Education Coordinator for Charter Schools will work with the family to enroll in a DCSD school