

## **Continuum of Placement Options**

***EC 56040.1. In accordance with Section 1412(a)(5) of Title 20 of the United States Code and Section 300.114 of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, each public agency shall ensure the following to address the least restrictive environment for individuals with exceptional needs:***

***(a) To the maximum extent appropriate, individuals with exceptional needs, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, are educated with children who are nondisabled.***

***(b) Special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of individuals with exceptional needs from the regular educational environment occurs only if the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in the regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.***

### **Continuum of Services**

Once a student is eligible for special education, a continuum of program options is available in the least restrictive environment within the Kern County Consortium SELPA member districts. The following are general descriptions of environments where special education and related services are provided in the SELPA.

#### **1) General Education**

Placement in the general education program shall occur when the student's educational needs can be addressed through accommodations within the general education program.

#### **2) General education with Support**

Students have special learning needs that may require special education instruction and services. The Individualized Education Plan Team has identified these needs. The students are assigned to general classroom teachers for the majority of a school day. The special education teacher plans and directs the student's instruction and assists the general education teacher.

#### **3) General education with Related Services**

Related Services shall be available when the instruction and services are necessary for the student to benefit educationally from his or her instructional program. These can be direct service or consult models; they may be provided within the general education setting or in a pull-out format depending on the needs of the student. Some students may need assistance in special areas that may include, but are not limited, to the following:

- Language/speech development & remediation
- Assistive Technology Services
- Adapted physical education
- Audiological Services
- Orientation/Mobility services
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Specially designed vocational education and career development
- Health/Nursing Services
- Social Work services
- Specialized Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services
- Behavior Intervention Services
- Recreation services
- Career Awareness
- Specialized services for low incidence disabilities such as readers & vision/hearing services.

- Vision Services
- Psychological services other than assessment
- Intensive Individual Services
- Job Coaching
- Note Taking
- Parent Counseling
- Specialized Academic Instruction
- Residential Treatment Services
- Counseling and guidance services, including rehabilitation counseling
- Interpreting services

**4) Specialized Academic Instruction**

Students may need specialized academic instruction for some portion of their academic day in a special education/resource room or self-contained special day class on an integrated or isolated site to accommodate their special needs. Specially trained personnel staff these classes. Placement in a special class shall only occur when the student's goals and objectives cannot be met in a less restrictive environment. Placement in a special education classroom operated by the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Special Education Division is available for students whose needs are so intense and/or significant that a district-level special day class is not able to accommodate.

**5) Nonpublic, nonsectarian school services, including residential placement**

Students may need educational services and programs that are not offered by the public schools. These students may attend state certified non-public and non-sectarian schools on a full or part-time basis. This placement recommendation is based on the IEP Team decision that an appropriate public program is not available.

**6) Home/Hospital**

Students may need to receive their special education and related services in their home or in a hospital due to severe medical concerns. This setting may be considered as a placement option when the IEP Team, in conjunction with the child's physician, has determined that no appropriate placement is available within the SELPA.