

**RIPON UNIFIED SCHOOL
DISTRICT'S RESPONSIBILITIES
UNDER SECTION 504**

Section 504:

*A recipient (district) shall conduct an evaluation... of any person, who, because of a disability, **needs** or is **believed to need** special education and related services before taking any action with respect to the initial placement and any subsequent significant change in placement. (34 C.F.R Section 104.35)*

IDEA and Section 504:

*Schools are **required** to locate, identify and evaluate all children with disabilities from birth through age 21. (20 U.S.C. 1412(a)(3)) and 34.C.F.R. 104.32 and 33.*

1. Identify students with needs.
2. Evaluate and determine eligibility.
3. Provide access to appropriate supports and services if found eligible
4. Provide a free, appropriate, public education (FAPE) to all qualified students with a disability.

Ripon Unified School District

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RUSD

Section 504 Plan

Parent Guide

It is the Mission of the Ripon Unified School District to work together with parents and the community to provide a high quality education. The district will create a safe learning environment characterized by trust and respect. We ensure that each student will be a contributing citizen in an ever changing diverse and global society.

**INFORMATION REGARDING
SECTION 504
OF THE REHABILITATION ACT
OF 1973**

Section 504 is an Act which prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving federal financial assistance. The Act defines a person with a disability as anyone who:

1. Has mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities.
2. Has a record of such an impairment, or;
3. Is regarded as having such impairment.

THE EVALUATION PROCESS

The 504 team will evaluate the nature of the student's suspected disability.

1. This may include a review of educational records and/or medical records; or if the child is suspected as having a disability under IDEA a full psycho-educational evaluation may be warranted.
2. The evaluation must be sufficient to accurately and completely assess possible eligibility and service options.
3. A final decision regarding eligibility will be made by the 504 team, which will consider whether or not the disabling condition substantially limits a major life activity, such as learning, walking, hearing, and concentrating.
4. The results of the evaluation will be documented.
5. If the student is found to be a qualified student with a disability, the District will develop and implement a 504 plan.

**WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT
YOUR CHILD MAY NEED A 504
PLAN**

1. Schedule a Student Study Team Meeting and/or a 504 team meeting with your student's principal to consider developing a 504 Plan.
2. Provide the Student Study Team or 504 team with any documentation you might have regarding your student's disability.
3. The team members will begin an evaluation if it is determined the student may qualify for a plan under Section 504.