

Purpose

This document intends to:

- Communicate to stakeholders in our community, school, and International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IB DP) network, that W.P. Davidson High School will meet the requirements and regulations of the state of Alabama, the Mobile County Public School System, and the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) regarding the educational rights of students with special needs.
- Identify roles and responsibilities of stakeholders for meeting the requirements and regulations.
- Provide a plan for the ongoing revision of this policy.

Philosophy

For an IB DP student with identified special needs, our school will consider reasonable adjustments to assessment and instruction to provide equal and appropriate educational opportunities.

Requirements and Regulations

W.P. Davidson High School adheres to the Alabama Administrative Code regarding the definition and recognition of special needs. The code can be found [here](#).

W.P. Davidson High School, as a school within the Mobile County Public School System, follows the district-wide procedures and policies regarding identifying, referring, and accommodating students with special needs. Specifically, IB DP teachers are required to be a part of the school's Problem-Solving Teams (PST) which meet regularly to monitor and manage accommodations and referrals for students with special educational needs. Additional information about the school district's plan can be found [here](#).

Furthermore, the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) is a federal law that "makes available a free appropriate public education to eligible children with disabilities throughout the nation and ensures special education and related services to those children." ([IDEA](#)).

Accommodations/interventions for students with qualifying disabilities are outlined in an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

Additionally, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ensures that students with disabilities have equal access to their education as their non-disabled peers; students who qualify receive accommodations that are outlined in an individual 504 plan ([504](#)).

W.P. Davidson High School understands and follows the procedures outlined by the IBO for pursuing assessment accommodations for IB DP students with identified special needs. We will use the following publications to guide the development of our special needs policy and our actions regarding students with identified special needs:

- [*Access and Inclusion Policy*](#)
- [*Diploma Programme: From Principles into practice*](#)

Roles and Responsibilities

For this document, we consider stakeholders to be IB DP Administrator, the DP Coordinator, Special Education Department Chair, 504 Liaison, PST Coordinator, Teachers, Students, and Parents.

Administrators will:

- Know and understand the regulations and requirements to support students with identified special educational needs.
- Provide teachers with resources and support for meeting the needs of students with identified special educational needs.

DP Coordinator will:

- Meet with stakeholders as needed to monitor and manage accommodations and referrals for IB DP students with special educational needs.
- Inform parents and students of the IBO requirements for assessment accommodations.
- On behalf of the student, apply to the IBO for accommodations on assessments by the deadline of November 15 of the testing year provided the DP Coordinator received the request from the parent no later than November 1 of the testing year.
- Coordinate and manage the logistics of providing IBO approved accommodations for assessment.
- Be a liaison for parents, students, and teachers in the IB DP regarding legally required accommodations in the classroom setting.
- Meet with our school's special needs department chair as needed to stay abreast of changes in requirements, regulations, and procedures.

Teachers will:

- Be a part of the school's Problem Solving Teams to monitor and manage accommodations and referrals for students with special educational needs.
- Collaborate with the IB DP Coordinator, parents, and students regarding legally required accommodations in the classroom setting and anticipated IBO approved assessment accommodations.

Students will:

- Meet with other stakeholders as needed to monitor and manage accommodations.
- Follow the procedures for accommodations approved by the school and/or the IBO.

Parents will:

- Inform the IB DP Coordinator or Administrators of the need for accommodations for identified special educational needs no later than November 1 of the testing year.

- Meet with stakeholders as needed to monitor and manage accommodations.

Inclusion Policy as a Working Document

The DP Coordinator will review the inclusion policy at the start of each year with the IB faculty, Special Education department chair, 504 liaison, and PST Coordinator to determine if revisions are needed.

This policy was reviewed in December 2024.

The policy will be available to all faculty, parents, and students via the school website. We encourage feedback, commendations, and recommendations from all of those stakeholders.