

## **INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

It shall be the policy of the Mt. Blue Regional School District (RSU 9) to maintain a complete individualized education program (IEP) for each student who has been identified with a disability and in need of special education services under state and federal special education laws, and who is in attendance at RSU 9 schools. RSU 9 shall develop these IEPs in a manner consistent with the procedural requirements of state and federal special education laws.

Student IEPs shall be reasonably calculated to provide the identified student with educational benefits in the least restrictive educational environment. RSU 9 shall ensure that such IEPs are in effect within 30 days of when a student is first identified as in need of special education services, and in effect no later than the beginning of each school year for subsequent IEPs.

If RSU 9 is unable to hire or contract with the professional staff necessary to implement a child's IEP, it will reconvene the IEP team to identify alternate service options. This IEP meeting shall occur no later than 30 days after the start of the school year or the date of the IEP Team's development of the original annual IEP. The reasons for the inability to provide the services outlined in the original IEP will be documented along with the alternative services put in place.

Changes in staff may occur mid-year. The IEP meeting may need to occur no later than 30 days after the change in staff.

IEPs must be reviewed at least annually, as prescribed by state and federal special education laws.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. §§1414(d)

34 C.F.R. §300.320 to .324 (2006)

Me. Dept. of Educ. Rule Ch. 101§ IX.3 (2015)

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