

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5145(a)

**RE: Policy Regarding Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
Students**

Adopted: 12/8/2009

Approved: 10/6/2015

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 a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities (major life activities include activities such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, eating, sleeping, standing, bending, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating and working);
2. has a record of such an impairment; or
3. is regarded as having such an impairment.

In order to fulfill its obligation under Section 504, the Bloomfield Public Schools recognize a responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel, students, parents and members of the public who participate in school sponsored programs. No discrimination against any person with a disability will knowingly be permitted in any of the programs and practices in the school system. Persons who feel that they may have been discriminated against on the basis of disability should contact the Bloomfield Public Schools Section 504 Coordinator.

The school district also has specific responsibilities under the Act with respect to providing access to appropriate educational services for students who qualify under Section 504. These responsibilities include the obligation to identify, to evaluate, and to afford access to appropriate educational services. If the parent or guardian disagrees with the decisions made by the professional staff of the school district with respect to the identification, evaluation, or placement of their child, he/she has a right to an impartial hearing.

If there are questions, please feel free to contact Wendy Shepard-Bannish, § 504 Coordinator for the Bloomfield Public Schools, at phone number 769-4260.

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Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes

10-15c Discrimination in public schools prohibited.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §§791, 793-794 (2006), (34 Code of Federal Regulations Part 104)

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §§12101-12213; 29 C.F.R. Part 1630 (2006); 28 C.F.R. Part 35 (2006)

Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act of 2008

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, "Dear Colleague Letter," 113 LRP 3326 (OCR 1/25/13)