

SECTION 504 OVERVIEW

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) is a federal statute that impacts entities that receive federal funding. Section 504 is a civil rights law that protects persons with disabilities who are otherwise qualified from any form of discrimination based on disability.

Section 504 states as follows: "No otherwise qualified person with a disability in the United States...shall, solely on the basis of disability, be denied access to, or the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity provided by any institution receiving federal assistance."

As applies to the School District of New Berlin (District), no person (e.g., student, parent/guardian, staff) shall be discriminated against because of age, color, disability, parental status, marital status, race, national origin, religion, sex, or veteran status. Parents/Guardians of students enrolled in the District who have a temporary or permanent disability may request the District to provide appropriate accommodations necessary for them to participate in essential educational activities of their students. Students who are at least eighteen years of age may submit their own requests.

It is the policy of the District to provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to each qualified student with a disability within its jurisdiction, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability. It is the intent of the District to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled under this policy even though they do not require services provided for by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA).

The District will comply with all statutes, regulations, updates, and definitions applicable to Section 504, including those identified in the Americans with Disabilities Act

LEGAL REFERENCES:

- Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004
- Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act, 2011
- Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972
- Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Wisconsin Statutes, Sections 111.31, 111.34, 118.13, 119.195

Adopted: 1/11/10

Revised: 8/29/11