

Admissions Criteria
Indiana School for the Deaf
1200 E. 42nd Street
Indianapolis, IN 46205

Authority:

Ind. Code § 20-22-2-2

Ind. Code § 20-22-2-3

Ind. Code § 20-22-2-6

Ind. Code § 20-22-2-7

Ind. Code § 20-22-2-9

Ind. Code § 20-22-2-10

The Indiana School for the Deaf (ISD) is a public agency that is responsible for providing special education and related services to qualifying individuals per Ind. Code §§ 20-22, 20-35, and the Indiana State Board of Education, Special Education Rules, Title 511, Article 7, Rules 32-47 (“Article 7”).

Students are placed at ISD through a state-mandated process known as a Case Conference Committee, in accordance with Article 7. This process ensures that each student is eligible for special education services. A comprehensive Individualized Educational Program (IEP) is developed to ensure that each student’s individual needs and learning style are met. In addition, Article 7 mandates that each student’s progress be reviewed at an annual case review where the parents, the local educational agency (LEA), and ISD develop appropriate goals and objectives. A comprehensive multi-disciplinary evaluation is also conducted for each student. Each assessment is designed for the student and may include, but not be limited to, the following areas: social history; psychological testing; physical and occupational therapy; speech; hearing; language; vocational aptitude; medical review; functional literacy; and daily living.

When referrals for any student from birth through the school year in which the student becomes twenty-two (22) years of age are made directly to ISD shall refer the person making the contact to the public school corporation of legal settlement where the referral, evaluation, and Case Conference Committee (CCC) meeting shall be the responsibility of the public school corporation of legal settlement. For a student who is deaf or hard of hearing, the public agency may request that representatives of the ISD serve as part of the multidisciplinary team only where the parent has provided written consent, in addition to the written consent to conduct the initial educational evaluation, for the representative's participation in the educational evaluation.

The Case Conference Committee determines student educational placement based on the full continuum of services where the IEP can be met in the least restrictive environment. The ISD, as part of the full continuum, may be considered a placement option provided:

1. a representative from the ISD is part of the case conference decision;
2. the student is eligible for special education services as a student who is deaf or hard of hearing or is eligible for special education services based on a disability that includes deafness or hard of hearing;

3. the IEP cannot be met at the LEA or through other options deemed to be least restrictive on the continuum of services;
4. consideration is given to any potential harmful effect on the student or the quality of services needed;
5. the placement is based on educational needs rather than rehabilitative, therapeutic or respite needs and
6. the individual needs of the student do not exceed the ISD's ability to provide for those needs in an environment that can address the student's health, safety and well being.

Where the ISD denies an application to the school, the parent or the LEA may request review of this decision by the Placement Review Committee (PRC). The parent or LEA can initiate this process by providing a written request to the Superintendent of the ISD within 10 days.

The PRC consists of three (3) members: a representative of the Board; a representative of the Office of the Secretary, Family and Social Services Administration; and a representative of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Superintendent of the ISD shall serve as advisor to the PRC and shall provide the PRC with information and justification for the denial of the application. The PRC, after consideration of the information, may recommend that the application be reconsidered.

The PRC process does not interfere with any procedural safeguard provided by Article 7.