

160-4-7-.05 ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION AND CATEGORIES OF ELIGIBILITY

Summary of Changes

Two eligibility categories have changes to them: Specific Learning Disabilities and Vision Impairment.

Specific Learning Disability (SLD) had undergone significant changes with the 2007 rules change as a result of the IDEA changes. The changes in this section alter specific timelines that were delaying evaluations and clarifies requirements for SLD. The previous version required that there be 12 weeks of intervention prior to any determination of eligibility, and that the interventions occur in the current school year. We have adjusted the requirements, removing the requirement for a specific number of weeks of intervention, but require that the interventions be administered as the research requires and that data be provided and reviewed.

Vision Impairment (VI) has been revised to reflect the definition of vision impaired found in IDEA. In addition, the requirement to have a low vision evaluation has been clarified, making allowances for severity of the disability, the age of the child and the difficulty, at times, to obtain the evaluation in a timely manner.

Both of these changes will ease the burden on a school system but still allow timely and appropriate identification of students with specific learning disability or vision impairment.