

POLICY

SUBJECT: Independent Educational Evaluation

The Board of Education of the Jamesville-DeWitt Central School District recognizes the right of parents to have an Independent Educational Evaluation at public expense if the parent disagrees with the evaluation obtained by the district.

It is the policy of the district to provide parents, upon request, with information about where an independent evaluation may be obtained and the requirements used by the district for selecting a qualified evaluator. If a parent disagrees with an evaluation obtained by the school district, the parent has the right to request a district-funded independent evaluation. The school district may grant the request or request a due process hearing to establish that the evaluation conducted by the district is appropriate.

The district retains its right to set the criteria under which an independent evaluation is obtained. This criterion includes a maximum fee which will be paid for an independent evaluation, the location of the evaluation, and the qualifications for the evaluator. If the parents obtain an independent evaluation at their own or district expense, the results of the evaluation will be considered by the district in any decision made regarding the provision of a free, appropriate, public education to the child.

If, during a due process hearing, the impartial hearing officer requests an independent educational evaluation, the evaluation will be conducted at district expense.

In circumstances where the child's needs are so unique as to prevent an appropriate independent evaluation from being conducted pursuant to district criteria, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee may provide exceptions to the established criteria necessary to adequately determine the child's needs.

The responsibility for developing and revising the administrative guidelines and procedure for this policy shall reside with the Superintendent of Schools and/or his/her designee.