504 Program Statement

It is the policy of the Board of Education not to discriminate against any otherwise qualified individual with a disability solely by reason of his/her disability,in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, any program or activity.

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 are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled under this policy even though they do not require services pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA).

Due process rights of students with disabilities and their parents under Section 504 will be enforced.



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<u>Division of</u>
<u>Special Services</u>
504 Programming

School District of Seward 410 South Street

> Seward, NE 68434 (402) 643-4906



What is the Program?

Seward Public School - Section 504 Eligibility Procedures -

The following lists consists of the actions to be taken by each buildings' counselor when completing or refusing a Section 504 Plan.

- 1. Anyone with special expertise or knowledge of a child suspected with a disability or a substantial limitation to one or more major life activities may contact any Seward Public Schools counselor or the Director of Special Services to refer the child/student to a Section 504 Assistance meeting.
- 2. In addition to people with special expertise or knowledge of the child/student, school staff may refer a child to a Section 504 Assistance meeting if they believe the child/student is suspected of having a disability of one or more substantial limitations to one or more major life activities.
- 3. Following the receipt of a Section 504
 Assistance request, the school counselor
 will convene a Student Assistance Team
 (SAT) compromised of multiple
 representatives having special expertise or
 knowledge of the child to determine
 eligibility.

At a minimum the SAT must consist of:

- a. Administrator
- b. Parent
- c. Guidance Counselor
- d. Regular Education teacher(s)
- e. Other Specialists as determined by the counselor and parents

- 4. The SAT team will convene to consider all medical, academic, social, emotional, and other attributes that may be relevant to the child being eligible for a Section 504 Plan.
- 5. Following the review of all relevant facts (data) the SAT Team can develop and write a Section 504 Plan, if the SAT Team has determined the child/student has a substantial limitation to one or more major life activities.

*NOTE: the child/student must be referred or tested for Special Education services evaluation under 92 NAC 51 if the SAT believes the child/student has a disability under Nebraska law.

- 6. If the child/student is determined to qualify for a Section 504 Plan, a plan will be completed and signed. Notification will be provided to the Director of Special Services and the appropriate building principal.
- 7. Parent/Student Rights in Identification, Evaluation, and Placement pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act will be provided at the initial meeting.

