

Special Education in Randolph County Schools

FEBRUARY 18, 2025



Eligibility for Special Education Services



There are 15 categories established in Policy 2419 with defined eligibility criteria. There are 13 established in IDEA.

A student is not eligible for special education unless all three eligibility components are satisfied and documented.

1. Meets the specific requirements for specific exceptionalities defined in Chapter 4 of WV Policy 2419.
2. Experiences an adverse effect on educational performance.
3. Needs specially designed instruction.

Eligibility for all special education students must be determined every three years.

Active IEPs



As of February 17, 2025



**Randolph County Schools has
826 active IEPs.**

Active 504s



As of February 17, 2025,



Randolph County Schools has
120 active 504s.

Special Education Services in Randolph County

Exceptionality	Students Served
Autism (AU)	41
Blindness and Low Vision (VI)	3
Deafblindness (DB)	0
Deafness (DF)	1
Developmental Delay (DD)	37
Emotional Disturbance (ED)	0
Gifted (GF)	34
Speech Language (CD)	132

Exceptionality	Students Served
Exceptional Gifted (EG)	0
Hard of Hearing (HH)	10
Intellectual Disability (ID)	136
Orthopedic Impairment (OI)	0
Other Health Impairment (OH)	148
Specific Learning Disability (SLD)	284
Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)	0

Related Services

IEP

Related Service	Students Served
Speech	178
Occupational Therapy	79
Physical Therapy	24
Vision	14
Hearing	2

504

Related Service	Students Served
Occupational Therapy	15
Physical Therapy	1

Open Referrals 2024-2025

Exceptionality			Open	Exceptionality			Open
Specific Learning Disability		LD	10	Intellectual Disability		ID	2
Other Health Impairment		OH	6	Developmental Delay		DD	1
Speech Language		CD	4	Multiple Exceptionalities			2
Gifted		GF	3				

Additional referrals will continue to be submitted as Student Assistance Teams (SAT) continue to monitor student performance. All referrals are addressed through the SAT process at the school level.

Gifted and Exceptional Gifted

Gifted Grades 1-8

- ▶ Only students in grades 1-8 can be considered for eligibility for gifted services.
- ▶ Students not meeting the criteria for exceptional gifted are exited at the conclusion of the 8th-grade year.
- ▶ A PEP Plan is created to include courses through the senior year. Classes classified as Honors, Dual Credit, AP or IB are to be included on the PEP. The PEP is then reviewed each year.

Exceptional Gifted 9-12

- ▶ the eligibility criteria for one or more of the disabilities as defined in this section;
- ▶ the definition for economically disadvantaged;
- ▶ the definition for underachievement, which takes into consideration the student's ability level, educational performance, and achievement levels;
- ▶ the definition for psychological adjustment disorder as documented by a comprehensive psychological evaluation.

GIFTED 1-8

EXCEPTIONAL GIFTED 9-12

Gifted 1-8

- ▶ Differentiated instruction for gifted students may include, but is not limited to, enrichment of the content emphasizing the development of higher-level thinking, including critical thinking, creative thinking, and problem-solving skills and/or acceleration of content while the student remains in the chronologically appropriate grade. Related services may include, but are not limited to, guidance and counseling, independent study, and distance learning.

Exceptional Gifted 9-12

- ▶ **IT is NOT a separate credit bearing class.**
- ▶ **IT is NOT Honors, Dual Credit, Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) class.**
- ▶ **Teachers of gifted students may not hold a certificate to teach advanced level courses.**

Special Education Staffing

41 Full-time special education teachers

4 Half-time special education teachers

10 Related Service Providers

16 Special Education Aides

Special Education Staffing

7 Pre-kindergarten Special
Needs Teachers



4 Pre-Kindergarten Special
Needs Aides

Special Education Staffing

1 School Psychologist

1 Behavior Specialist

1 IEP Specialist

1 Special Education Secretary

1 Special Education Director

Special Education Contracted Services and Costs Associated

Interim Health Care

\$23, 231.25

Best Life Therapy

\$46,646.60

Mountainside Behavior

\$37,961.49

WVU Orientation and Mobility Services

\$3,314.55

Integrated Speech Solutions-Audiology

\$1,200.00

Contracted School Psychologists

FY 24 \$11,350.00

Testing Protocols

\$3, 378.43

Special Education Contracted Services and Costs Associated

- ▶ Reported Costs for contracted services are from July 1, 2024, to present.
 - ▶ They are being paid out of special education carryover funds.
 - ▶ Once the carryover funds are depleted, the county will have to absorb these costs.
 - ▶ These are all direct services to students and required in the IEP.
- *Contracted School Psychologists can be paid with available state funds.

Staffing Requirements

Maximum Limits for Case Management Assignments	
Teachers of students with developmental delays grades Pre-K through K	20 students with IEPs/See Class Size Requirement Below
Teachers of the gifted/exceptional gifted	50
Speech Therapists	50 (primary and related service)
Teachers of all other exceptionalities (including developmental delay grades K-2)	30/See Class Size Requirement for Instructional Period

Staffing Requirements-Direct Instruction

Grade Span	Early Learning Programs Grades K - 5		Middle Level Programs Grades 6 - 8	Secondary Level Programs Grades 9 - 12
Level I Service Needs	Grades K-2	Grades 3-5	12	12
	12 students with a minimum staffing ratio of 1:6	12 students with a minimum staffing ratio of 1:8		
Level II Service Needs	12 students with a minimum staffing ratio of 1:6*		12 students with a minimum staffing ratio of 1:6*	12 students with a minimum staffing ratio of 1:6*

Staffing Requirements-Direct Instruction

Grade Span	Early Learning Programs Grades K - 5	Middle Level Programs Grades 6 - 8	Secondary Level Programs Grades 9 - 12
Level III Service Needs	8 students with a minimum staffing ratio of 1:4**	8 students with a minimum staffing ratio of 1:4**	8 students with a minimum staffing ratio of 1:4**

Levels are defined in Policy 2419 and assigned by the Director of Special Education

Staffing Requirements-Integrated and Co-Taught Classrooms

Special education students must not exceed 30 percent of the total class enrollment in integrated classrooms when instruction is being delivered in the four core content areas.

Special education students must not exceed 50 percent of the total class enrollment in co-taught classrooms when instruction is being delivered in the four core content areas.

Special Education

Salaries

FY21	\$3,195,096.24
FY22	\$3,196,763.00
FY23	\$3,250,870.13
FY24	\$3,795,855.61
FY25	\$3,955,194.89 (anticipated)

IDEA Funding

FY21	\$1,105,647.00
FY22	\$1,369,336.00
FY23	\$1,132,339.00
FY24	\$1,196,887.00
FY25	\$1,169,999.00

Special Education

- ▶ Federal allocations are based on the student count as of December 1 each year.
- ▶ Gifted Students are not included in this count.
- ▶ Randolph County Schools pays the balance of staff salaries after applying IDEA funds.

Special Education Funding

State Aid

FY 21	\$42,316.00
FY 22	\$44,475.00
FY 23	\$73,393.00
FY 24	\$75,340.00
FY 25	\$71,400.00

State aid is based on the October 1 count, gifted students are included in this amount.

State aide fluctuates each year and is not guaranteed. Students placed out of state by the courts are included and costs are deducted based on the number of students placed.

Costs for out-of-state placement students are \$27,684.00 per student.

Funding Sources for Special Education

IDEA (FEDERAL FUNDING)

- ▶ Staff salaries and contracted services.

State aid (state funding)

- ▶ Extended School Year Services
- ▶ Professional Stipends
- ▶ Tuition Reimbursement
- ▶ Professional Development
- ▶ Contracted Services
- ▶ Staff Travel
- ▶ Special Education Supplies(students and staff)

Special Education Travel

Itinerant Providers

- ▶ Randolph County Schools has 22 itinerant service providers.
- ▶ These include speech pathologists, occupational and physical therapists, hard of hearing and vision teachers, behavior specialists and behavior aides, bus aides, gifted teacher, and pre-school special needs teacher.
- ▶ Each provider serves different schools each day. We are required to pay them for their travel.
- ▶ Itinerant in-county travel from August 2024 to January 2025 is \$6,690.65.
- ▶ Out of county travel for professional development for all special education providers from August 2024, to January 2025, is \$1,169.12.

IEP Compliance

- All active IEPs will be reviewed for compliance in the 2024-2025 school year. Anticipating 875 to close the school year.
- To date, 792 reviews have been completed resulting in 420 corrective actions.
- Due to special education staff shortages, 26 IEPs have been written and 83 amendments to IEPs have been completed by the IEP Specialist.
- Often, students will have more than one IEP meeting in a school year. We estimate 1500 reviews will occur before the end of the school year.
- Each service review requires data entry for individual services on each IEP.