

LOCAL COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

LEAs/districts may at times receive complaints from parents or guardians regarding special education. LEAs/districts are required to have a local complaint process in place. Below are guidelines to assist LEAs/districts on the requirement.

LEAs/districts are required to adopt policies and procedures for the investigation and resolution of complaints of alleged violation of federal or state laws governing educational programs. Local policies shall ensure that complainants are protected from retaliation and that the identity of a complainant alleging discrimination remains confidential as appropriate. LEAs/districts shall submit their policies and procedures to the local governing board for adoption.

Each local educational agency shall include in its policies and procedures the person(s), employee(s) or agency position(s) or unit(s) responsible for receiving complaints, investigating complaints and ensuring LEA/district compliance. The local educational agency's policies shall ensure that the person(s), employee(s), position(s) or unit(s) responsible for compliance and/or investigations shall be knowledgeable about the laws/programs that he/she is assigned to investigate.

The LEA/district may provide a complaint form for persons wishing to file a complaint to submit. However, a person is not required to use the complaint form furnished by the LEA/district in order to file a complaint.