

## R-1510 RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH HANDICAPS OR DISABILITIES/ NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Board of Education that no qualified handicapped/disabled person shall, on the basis of handicap/disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in employment or under any program, activity or vocational opportunities sponsored by this Board. The Board shall comply with §504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The Board shall also comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act through the implementation of Policy No. 2460 and Regulations Nos. 2460 through 2460.14.

### DEFINITIONS

**Handicapped/Disabled Person** — means any person who (1) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of a person's major life activities and includes specific learning disabilities, (2) has a record of such impairment, or (3) is regarded as having such an impairment. (34 CFR sec. 104.3(j))

**Disability** — means a pupil with mental retardation, hearing impairments including deafness, speech or language impairments, visual impairments including blindness, serious emotional disturbance, orthopedic impairments, autism, traumatic brain injury, other health impairments or specific learning disabilities and who by reason thereof, needs special education and related services 20 U.S.C. 1401 §602(A), or an individual who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities of such individual. 42 U.S.C. §1201 §3.

**Physical or Mental Impairment** — means (1) any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the following body systems: neurological; muscular/skeletal, special sense organs; respiratory, including speech organs; cardiovascular; reproductive, digestive, genito urinary; hemic and lymphatic; skin; and endocrine; or (2) any mental or physiological disorder, such as mental retardation, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities. (34 CFR sec. 104.3(j)(2)(i))

**Major Life Activities** — means functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working. (34 CFR sec. 104.3(j)(2)(ii)). **Has a record of such impairment** — means has a history of, or has been misclassified as having, a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. (34 CFR sec. 104.3(j)(2)(iii)). **Is regarded as having an impairment** — means (1) has a physical or mental impairment that does not substantially limit major life activities but



# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R-1510/page 2 of 17

Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination

~~that is treated by a recipient as constituting such a limitation; (2) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits major life activities only as a result of the attitudes of others toward such impairment, or (3) has none of the impairments defined above, but is treated by a recipient as having such an impairment. (34 CFR sec. 104.3(j)(2)(iv))~~

~~Recipient—Any State or its political subdivision, including this Board of Education. (34 CFR sec. 104.3(f))~~

~~Qualified Handicapped/Disabled Person—means:~~

- ~~1. With respect to employment, a handicapped/disabled person who, with reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the job in question;~~
- ~~2. With respect to public preschool, elementary, secondary, or adult educational services, a handicapped/disabled person (1) of an age during which nonhandicapped/nondisabled persons are provided such services, (2) of any age during which it is mandatory under State or Federal law to provide such services to handicapped/disabled persons, or (3) to whom a State is required to provide a free appropriate public education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act;~~
- ~~3. With respect to post secondary and vocational educational services, a handicapped/disabled person who meets the academic and technical standards requisite to admission or participation in the school district's education program or activity; and~~
- ~~4. With respect to other services, a handicapped/disabled person who meets the essential eligibility requirements for the receipt of such services. (34 CFR sec. 104.3(k)(1-4))~~

~~Handicap—means any condition or characteristic that renders a person handicapped/disabled.~~

~~Disability—means any condition or characteristic that renders a person disabled.~~

~~Aids, Benefits, and Services—means aids, benefits and services to be equally effective, are not required to produce the identical result or level of achievement for handicapped/disabled and nonhandicapped/nondisabled persons, but must afford handicapped/disabled persons equal opportunity to obtain the same result, gain the same benefit, or reach the same level of achievement, in the most integrated setting appropriate to the person's needs. (34 CFR sec. 104.4(b)(2))~~



# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R-1510/page 3 of 17

Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination

~~Act means the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Public Law 93-112, as amended by the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1974, Public Law 93-516, 29 U.S.C. 794, the Americans with Disabilities Act 42 U.S.C. §1201 et seq., and the Individuals with Disabilities Act 20 U.S. 1400 et seq.~~

~~"Aggrieved individual" means a qualified handicapped/disabled person who alleges a grievance or the representative of such qualified handicapped/disabled person.~~

~~"Board of Education" means the Board of Education of the Randolph School District.~~

~~"Complainant" means a parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of a qualified handicapped/disabled pupil or qualified handicapped/disabled person who files a grievance in accordance with the grievance procedure.~~

~~"Compliance Officer" means the district official responsible for the coordination of activities relating to compliance with §504.~~

~~"Day" means either calendar or working day as specified.~~

~~"Employee" means an individual who receives remuneration from the school district for services rendered.~~

~~"Grievance" means an unresolved problem concerning the interpretation or application by an officer or employee of this school district of law and regulations regarding discrimination by reason of handicap/disability.~~

~~"Immediate supervisor" means any employee responsible for, or exercising any degree of supervision or authority over another employee or pupil.~~

~~"Intermediate supervisor" means the administrator to whom the immediate supervisor is directly responsible.~~

~~"Pupil" means an individual enrolled in any formal educational program provided by the school district.~~

~~"School district" means the Randolph School District.~~



# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R-1510/page 4 of 17

Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination

### District Coordinator

The Board will appoint a District Coordinator to coordinate its efforts to comply with the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act and Title IX. Such procedures to coordinate its efforts to comply with the act will be contained in this Regulation for pupils, employees and other qualified persons. The District Coordinator will be responsible for the initial evaluation of all allegations, reasonable accommodations, if required, and re-evaluations. The District Coordinator will comply with the mediation and due process requirements pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.6 and 6A:14-2.7 where applicable in cases arising from §504.

### Notice

The Board shall notify members of the community, applicants, including those with impaired vision or hearing, and unions/associations within the school district, that the Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of handicap/disability in violation of §504 or the Americans with Disabilities Act. This notice may include any of the following methods: the posting of notices, publication in local newspapers and magazines and/or distribution of memoranda or other written communications. The policy and regulation may be reprinted in part or in full and distributed to serve as adequate notice.

### State or Local Law

The obligation to comply with the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act is not obviated or alleviated by the existence of any State or local law or other requirement that, on the basis of handicap/disability, imposes prohibitions or limits upon the eligibility of qualified handicapped/disabled persons to receive services or to practice any occupation or profession, or because employment opportunities in any occupation or profession are or may be more limited for handicapped/disabled persons than nonhandicapped/nondisabled persons.

## EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

### Discrimination Prohibited

No qualified handicapped/disabled person shall, on the basis of handicap/disability, be subjected to discrimination in employment under any program or activity to which the Act applies. The Board of Education will take positive steps to employ and advance in employment qualified handicapped/disabled persons in programs assisted under the Act. The Board of Education will make all decisions concerning employment under any program or activity to which the Act applies in a manner which ensures that discrimination on the basis of handicap/disability does not occur and may not limit, segregate, or classify applicants or employees in any way that adversely affects their opportunities or status because of handicap/disability.



# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R-1510/page 5 of 17

Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination

The Board of Education will not participate in a contractual or other relationship that has the effect of subjecting qualified handicapped/disabled applicants or employees to discrimination prohibited by the Rehabilitation Act. This shall apply to

1. Recruitment, advertising, and the processing of applications for employment;
2. Hiring, upgrading, promotion, award of tenure, demotion, transfer, layoff, termination, right of return from layoff and rehiring;
3. Rates of pay or any other form of compensation and changes in compensation;
4. Job assignments, job classifications, organizational structures, position descriptions, lines of progression, and seniority lists;
5. Leaves of absences, sick leave, or other leave;
6. Fringe benefits available by virtue of employment, whether or not administered by the Board of Education;
7. Selection and financial support for training including apprenticeship, professional meetings, conferences, and other related activities, and selection for leaves of absences to pursue training;
8. Employer sponsored activities, including social or recreational programs; and
9. Any other term, condition, or privilege of employment.

The Board of Education's obligation to comply with these requirements is not affected by any inconsistent term or any collective bargaining agreement to which the Board is a party.

### Reasonable Accommodation

The Board of Education will make reasonable accommodation to the known physical or mental limitation of any otherwise qualified handicapped/disabled applicant or employee unless the Board can demonstrate that the accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the operation of the program. Reasonable accommodation may include making facilities used by employees readily accessible to and usable by handicapped/disabled persons and job restructuring, part-time or modified work schedules, acquisition or modification of equipment or devices, the provision of readers or interpreters, and other similar actions. In determining whether the accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the operation of the program, the Board of Education will consider:



# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R-1510/page 6 of 17

~~Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination~~

- ~~1. The overall size of the school district's program with respect to the number of employees, number and type of facilities and the size of the budget;~~
- ~~2. The type of operation, including the composition and structure of the school district's workforce; and~~
- ~~3. The nature and cost of the accommodation needed.~~

~~The Board of Education will not deny any employment opportunity to a qualified handicapped/disabled employee or applicant if the basis of the denial is the need to make reasonable accommodation to the physical or mental limitations of the employee or applicant.~~

### Employment Criteria

~~The Board of Education and its administration will not use any employment test or other selection criterion that screens out or tends to screen out handicapped/disabled persons or any class of handicapped/disabled persons unless the test score or other selection criterion is shown to be job-related for the position in question and alternative job-related tests or criteria that do not screen out as many handicapped/disabled persons shown by the Coordinator to be available. The Board of Education and its administration may select and administer tests concerning employment so as to best ensure that when administered to an applicant or employee who has a handicap/disability that impairs sensory, manual, or speaking skills, the test results accurately reflect the applicant's or employee's job skills, aptitude, or whatever factor the test purports to measure, rather than reflecting the applicant's or employee's impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills (except where those skills are the factors that the test purports to measure).~~

### Pre-employment Inquiries

~~Except as provided for in this regulation and the Rehabilitation Act, the Board of Education and its administration, will not conduct pre-employment medical examination and will not make pre-employment inquiry of an applicant as to whether the applicant is a handicapped/disabled person or as to the nature or severity of the handicap/disability. The school district may make pre-employment inquiry into an applicant's ability to perform job-related functions.~~

~~When the Board of Education is taking remedial action to correct effects of past discrimination or to overcome the effects of conditions that resulted in limited participation in its Federally assisted program or activity, as provided for in the Rehabilitation Act, or when the Board is taking affirmative action pursuant to §504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Board may invite applicants for employment to indicate whether and to what extent they are handicapped/disabled. This is permitted provided the Board states clearly on a written questionnaire or makes clear~~



~~orally if no written questionnaire is used that the information requested is intended for use solely in connection with its remedial action obligations or its voluntary or affirmative action efforts and the Board states clearly that the information is being requested on a voluntary basis, that it will be kept confidential, that refusal to provide information will not subject the applicant or employee to any adverse treatment, and that the information will only be used in accordance with this part of the Regulation and applicable section of the Rehabilitation Act.~~

~~The Board of Education may condition an offer of employment on the results of a medical examination conducted prior to the employee's entrance on duty provided that all entering employees are subjected to such an examination regardless of handicap/disability and the results of such an examination are used only in accordance with the requirements of the policy, regulation and the Rehabilitation Act.~~

~~Information obtained in accordance with pre-employment inquiries as to the medical condition or history of the applicant will be collected and maintained on separate forms that will be accorded confidentiality as medical records. Supervisors may be informed of restrictions on the work or duties of handicapped/disabled persons and any reasonable accommodations. First aid and safety personnel may be informed, where appropriate, if the condition might require emergency treatment. Government officials investigating compliance with the Rehabilitation Act shall be provided relevant information upon request.~~

## ~~Complaints About Employment Discrimination~~

~~Complaints about employment discrimination under §504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans with Disabilities Act shall first be made in writing to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. If the complaint cannot be resolved the following grievance procedure shall be followed:~~

### ~~Grievance Procedure – Employment~~

~~This grievance procedure shall apply to qualified handicapped/disabled persons who are employees with alleged discriminatory act(s) under the provisions of §504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act.~~

- ~~1. The aggrieved individual shall file a written complaint, stating the specific facts of his/her grievance and the alleged discriminatory act, with the compliance officer.~~



# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R-1510/page 8 of 17

Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination

- ~~2. The District Coordinator shall make all reasonable efforts to resolve the matter informally by having the aggrieved individual review the complaint with his/her immediate supervisor.~~
- ~~3. The immediate supervisor shall render a determination to the aggrieved individual within five working days after hearing the complaint. If such complaint is not satisfactorily resolved at this stage, the aggrieved individual may proceed to the next level of appeal.~~
- ~~4. Within three working days after a determination has been made at the preceding stage, the aggrieved individual may present the complaint in writing to the intermediate supervisor, if such there be, who shall orally discuss the complaint with the aggrieved individual. The intermediate supervisor shall render a determination in writing to the aggrieved individual within seven working days after receiving the complaint. If such complaint is not satisfactorily resolved at this stage, the aggrieved individual may proceed to the next level of appeal.~~
- ~~5. Within three working days after a determination has been made by the intermediate supervisor, the aggrieved individual may make a written request to the compliance officer for review and determination.~~
- ~~6. The District Coordinator shall immediately notify the individual, immediate supervisor, and intermediate supervisor in the case to submit written statements to him/her within five working days setting forth the specific nature of the complaint, the facts relating thereto, and the determinations previously rendered.~~
- ~~7. The District Coordinator shall notify all parties concerned in the case of the time and place when an informal hearing will be held where the parties may appear and present oral and written statements supplementing their position in the case and the manner in which the hearing will be conducted. Such hearing shall be held within seven working days of receipt of the written statements pursuant to paragraph 5.~~
- ~~8. The District Coordinator shall render a determination within twelve working days after the written statements pursuant to paragraph 5 have been presented to him/her, or five working days after the completion of the informal hearing. The District Coordinator will provide a written copy of his/her determination to all parties.~~





# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R-1510/page 9 of 17

Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination

9. ~~The aggrieved individual may appeal the determination of the District Coordinator to the Board within three working days of the receipt of the compliance officer's determination. The appeal shall be in writing and attached to copies of the original complaint, the minutes of the informal hearing, and the written determination of the District Coordinator. The Board or a committee thereof may, in its discretion, convene a hearing at which the parties may present additional testimony and argument.~~
10. ~~Within forty five calendar days of the filing of appeal, the Board shall provide both parties with a written decision.~~
11. ~~If the complaint has not been satisfactorily resolved in the above stages, the aggrieved individual may appeal in writing directly to the Office of Civil Rights.~~

### FACILITIES

#### Discrimination Prohibited

~~No qualified handicapped/disabled person shall, because a Board of Education facility is inaccessible to or usable by handicapped/disabled persons, be denied the benefits of, be excluded from participation in, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any activity to which this section of the Regulation applies.~~

#### Existing Facilities

~~The Board of Education will operate its programs and activities so that the program, when viewed in its entirety, is readily accessible to handicapped/disabled persons. The Board of Education is not required to make each of its facilities accessible to and usable by handicapped/disabled persons. The Board may comply with these requirements through such means as redesign of equipment, realignment of classes or other services to other buildings, assignment of aides, alternative sites, alterations of existing facilities or construction of new facilities or any other methods that result in making its programs or activities accessible to handicapped/disabled persons. The Board is not required to make structural changes in existing facilities where other methods that are effective in achieving compliance with this Regulation and the Rehabilitation Act. The Board will give priority to those methods that offer programs and activities to handicapped/disabled persons in the most integrated setting appropriate. The Board of Education will develop a plan to make its facilities comply with this policy and the Rehabilitation Act. The plan shall be developed with the assistance of interested persons, including handicapped/disabled persons or organizations representing handicapped/disabled persons.~~



# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R-1510/page 10 of 17

Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination

### New Construction

~~The Board of Education will design and construct each new facility or part of each new facility, or in the renovation of facilities or part thereof, in a manner that each such facility is readily accessible to and usable by handicapped/disabled persons. The alterations are not required if the alteration has little likelihood of being accomplished without removing or altering a load bearing structural member. The Board of Education will comply with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A and N.J.A.C. 6 for the construction, remodeling and/or renovation of its facilities.~~

### Complaints About Accessibility of Facility

~~Complaints about access to facilities shall first be made to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. If the complaint cannot be resolved the following grievance procedure shall be followed:~~

### Grievance Procedure - Facilities

~~This grievance procedure shall apply to qualified handicapped/disabled persons who are not employees or pupils with alleged discriminatory act(s) under the provisions of §504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act.~~

- ~~1. The aggrieved individual shall file a written complaint, stating the specific facts of his/her grievance and the alleged discriminatory act, with the District Coordinator.~~
- ~~2. The District Coordinator shall make all reasonable efforts to resolve the matter informally by reviewing the complaint with the aggrieved individual.~~
- ~~3. In the event the complaint cannot be resolved through an informal meeting, the District Coordinator shall notify all parties concerned in the case of the time and place when an informal hearing will be held where the parties may appear and present oral and written statements supplementing their position in the case and the manner in which the hearing will be conducted. Such hearing shall be held within seven working days of receipt of the written statements pursuant to paragraph 5.~~
- ~~4. The District Coordinator shall render a determination within twelve working days after the written statements pursuant to paragraph 5 have been presented to him/her, or five working days after the completion of the informal hearing. The District Coordinator will provide a written copy of his/her determination to all parties.~~



# REGULATION

# RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R-1510/page 11 of 17

Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination

5. ~~The aggrieved individual may appeal the determination of the District Coordinator to the Board within three working days of the receipt of the District Coordinator's determination. The appeal shall be in writing and attached to copies of the original complaint, the minutes of the informal hearing, and the written determination of the compliance officer. The Board or a committee thereof may, in its discretion, convene a hearing at which the parties may present additional testimony and argument.~~
6. ~~Within forty five calendar days of the filing of appeal, the Board shall provide both parties with a written decision.~~
7. ~~If the complaint has not been satisfactorily resolved in the above stages, the aggrieved individual may appeal in writing directly to the Office of Civil Rights.~~

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

~~The Board of Education will not, on the basis of handicap/disability, exclude qualified handicapped/disabled persons from the program or activity and will take into account the needs of such persons in determining the aid, benefits or services to be provided under the program or activity.~~

~~Pupils not otherwise eligible for special education programs and/or related services pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1 et seq. may be referred to the District 504 Coordinator by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s), staff member and/or a request directly from the pupil.~~

~~The Board will provide a reasonable accommodation(s) to otherwise qualified pupils notwithstanding any program and/or related services required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1 et seq. Timelines for re-evaluations of pupils receiving a reasonable accommodation(s) will be established by the District Coordinator. A re-evaluation may be requested by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and/or the pupil at any time upon written request to the District Coordinator.~~

## Location and Notification

~~The administration will undertake to identify and locate every qualified handicapped/disabled person residing within the school district who is not receiving a public school education and will take steps to notify such handicapped/disabled persons and their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the school district's duty under the policy and Rehabilitation Act. Pupils not otherwise eligible for program and/or related services pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1 et seq., may be referred to the District Coordinator by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s), staff member and/or a request directly from the pupil.~~



# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R-1510/page 12 of 17

Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination

### Free Appropriate Public Education

~~The school district is required to provide a free appropriate public education to each qualified handicapped/disabled person who resides within the school district regardless of the nature or severity of the person's handicap/disability. An appropriate education is the provision of regular or special education and related aids and services that are designed to meet individual educational needs of handicapped/disabled persons as adequately as the needs of nonhandicapped/nondisabled persons are met and are based upon adherence to procedures that satisfy the requirements of this regulation.~~

~~The school district may place a handicapped/disabled person in or refer such person to a program other than the one it operates as its means of carrying out the provisions of this regulation and IDEA. The school district continues to maintain responsibility for ensuring the requirements of this section are met in respect to any handicapped/disabled person so placed or referred.~~

~~A free appropriate public education must be provided to handicapped/disabled person without cost to the handicapped/disabled person or to his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s), except for those fees that are imposed on nonhandicapped/nondisabled persons or their parent(s) or legal guardian(s). If the handicapped/disabled person is placed in a program not operated by the school district the school district will ensure adequate transportation to and from the program and it shall be provided at no greater cost than would be incurred by the person or his parent(s) or legal guardian(s) if the handicapped/disabled person was placed in the program operated by the school district. If a public or private residential placement is necessary to provide a free appropriate education to a handicapped/disabled person because of his/her handicap/disability, the program, including non-medical care and room and board shall be provided at no cost to the person or his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s).~~

### Educational Setting

~~The school administration will place a handicapped/disabled person in the regular educational environment within the school district unless the school district demonstrates that the education of the handicapped/disabled person in the regular environment with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. The administration will consider the proximity of any alternative setting for handicapped/disabled persons to the person's home. The Board will ensure that handicapped/disabled persons participate with nonhandicapped/nondisabled persons in such activities and services to the maximum extent appropriate to the needs of the handicapped/disabled person in question.~~



## Evaluation And Placement

The Board of Education establishes standards and procedures for the evaluation and placement of pupils who, because of handicap/disability, need or are believed to need special education or related services through Policy No. 2460 and Regulations Nos. 2460 through 2460.14. Individuals qualifying under §504 shall be evaluated using the following procedures:

1. Tests and other evaluation materials have been validated for the specific purpose for which they are used and are administered by trained personnel;
2. Tests and other evaluation materials include those tailored to assess specific areas of educational need and not merely those which are designed to provide a single general intelligence quotient; and
3. Tests are selected and administered so as to best to ensure that, when a test is administered to a pupil with impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills, the test results accurately reflect the pupil's aptitude or achievement level or whatever other factor the test purports to measure, rather than reflecting the pupil's impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills (except where those skills are the factors that the test purports to measure).

In interpreting evaluation data and in making placement decisions, the school district will:

1. Draw upon information from a variety of sources, including aptitude and achievement tests, teacher recommendations, physical condition, social or cultural background, and adaptive behavior;
2. Establish procedures to ensure that the information obtained from all such sources is documented and carefully considered;
3. Ensure that the placement decision is made by a group of persons, including persons knowledgeable about the child, the meaning of the evaluation data and the placement options; and
4. Ensure that the placement decision is made in conformity with this regulation and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Timelines for re-evaluations of pupils receiving a reasonable accommodation(s) will be established by the District 504 Coordinator. A re-evaluation may be requested by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and/or the pupil at any time upon written request to the District Coordinator.



# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION  
R-1510/page 14 of 17  
~~Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination~~

### ~~Section 504 Accommodation Plan~~

~~The District Coordinator based on the evaluation of the pupil eligible for services under §504 shall prepare a Section 504 Accommodation Plan which contains at least the following elements as related to the pupil:~~

- ~~1. Name.~~
- ~~2. Date of Birth.~~
- ~~3. Current educational placement.~~
- ~~4. Name of the District Coordinator or designee preparing the Section 504 Accommodation Plan.~~
- ~~5. Handicapping/Disabling condition.
  - ~~a. Major life activity impaired.~~
  - ~~b. Educational impact.~~
  - ~~c. Impact on related educational progress.~~~~
- ~~6. Accommodation (as appropriate).
  - ~~a. Physical and learning environment.~~
  - ~~b. Instructional.~~
  - ~~c. Behavioral.~~
  - ~~d. Evaluation.~~
  - ~~e. Medical.~~
  - ~~f. Transportation.~~
  - ~~g. Other.~~~~
- ~~7. Location of the Accommodation.~~



# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R-1510/page 15 of 17

Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination

8. ~~A listing of individuals participating in the development of the plan, along with their titles and the date(s) of their participation.~~
9. ~~A certification by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the pupil that they have participated in the development of the plan and give their consent to its implementation.~~
10. ~~A waiver of the fifteen days notice prior to the implementation of the plan by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) if the plan is to be implemented sooner than the fifteen days.~~

### Procedural Safeguards

~~The school district will establish and implement, with respect to actions regarding the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of persons who, because of handicap/disability, need or are believed to need special education or related services, a system of procedural safeguards that includes notice, an opportunity for the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the person to examine relevant records, an impartial hearing with opportunity for participation by the person's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and representation by counsel, and a review procedure. These procedural safeguards shall be in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14 et seq. and Policy No. 2460 and Regulation 2460.7 and/or the grievance procedures contained herein.~~

### Grievance Procedure - Pupils

~~This grievance procedure shall apply to qualified handicapped/disabled persons who are pupils with alleged discriminatory act(s) under the provisions of §504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act.~~

1. ~~The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of a qualified handicapped/disabled pupil or adult qualified handicapped/disabled pupil who believe the pupil has a valid basis for a grievance under §504, or the American Disabilities Act shall file an informal complaint in writing, stating the specific facts of his/her grievance and the alleged discriminatory act, with the District Coordinator.~~
2. ~~The District Coordinator shall make all reasonable efforts to resolve the matter informally by reviewing the grievance with appropriate staff which may include, but not be limited to, the Principal, Child Study Team staff and/or the classroom teacher(s).~~



# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R-1510/page 16 of 17

Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination

3. ~~The District Coordinator will investigate and document the complaint including dates of meetings, dispositions and date of dispositions. The District Coordinator will provide a written reply to the aggrieved individual within seven working days.~~
4. ~~If the complainant is not satisfied with the District Coordinator's written reply, the complainant must file a formal complaint in writing, setting out the circumstances that give rise to the alleged grievance. This written complaint must be filed with the District Coordinator within three working days.~~
5. ~~The District Coordinator will appoint a qualified hearing officer within seven working days of the receipt of the written grievance. The hearing officer will conduct a hearing within seven working days. The hearing officer will give the parent(s) or legal guardian(s), pupil or adult pupil a full and fair opportunity to present evidence relevant to the issues raised under the grievance. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s), pupil or adult pupil may, at their own expense, be assisted or represented by individuals of their choice, including legal counsel. The hearing officer will present a written decision to the District Coordinator and aggrieved individual within seven working days of the hearing.~~
6. ~~The complainant may file an written appeal to the Board if not satisfied with the hearing officer's decision. The Board, through the Superintendent, will provide a written disposition of the alleged grievance.~~
7. ~~The complainant may request Mediation and Due Process in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.6 and 2.7 if unsatisfied with the written decision of the Board, or if specifically requested by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s), or adult pupil the aforementioned N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.6 and 2.7 grievance procedure must be followed.~~

### Nonacademic Services

~~The Board of Education will provide non-academic and extracurricular services and activities in such manner as is necessary to afford handicapped/disabled pupils an equal opportunity for participation in such services and activities. These services and activities may include counseling services, physical recreational athletics, transportation, health services, recreational activities, special interest groups or school clubs, referrals to agencies which provide assistance to handicapped/disabled persons, and employment to pupils, including both employment by the school district and assistance in making available outside employment.~~





# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R-1510/page 17 of 17

Rights of Persons With Handicaps or  
Disabilities/Non-Discrimination

~~The Board of Education and administration will ensure that qualified handicapped/disabled pupils are not counseled toward more restrictive career objectives than are nonhandicapped/nondisabled pupils with similar interests and abilities. The Board will provide to qualified handicapped/disabled pupils an equal opportunity for participation in physical education courses, athletics, and similar programs and activities. The school district may offer separate physical education and athletic activities to handicapped/disabled pupils only if separate or differentiation is consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act and no qualified handicapped/disabled person is denied the opportunity to compete for teams or to participate in courses that are not separate or different.~~

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### Provisions Applicable to All Grievance Procedures

- ~~1. If the same or substantially the same grievance is made by more than one individual, a single individual may process the grievance through the grievance procedure on behalf of all aggrieved individuals. The names of all aggrieved individuals shall appear on all documents related to the settlement of the grievance.~~
- ~~2. An aggrieved individual may be represented or accompanied at any time by a person chosen by the individual.~~
- ~~3. An employee may use personal leave time when it becomes necessary to process a grievance during work hours.~~
- ~~4. A grievance that arises late in the school term will be submitted to an expedited process in order that the grievance may be resolved as soon after the school term as possible.~~
- ~~5. There will be no reprisal of any kind taken against any aggrieved individual for participation in a grievance.~~
- ~~6. All documents, communications, and records regarding the processing of a grievance will be filed in a separate file and will not be kept in the personnel or pupil file.~~

Adopted: 15 January 2013



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 1 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

Dec 16

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 136, 138, 151, 167 and 210]

R 1510 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT RIGHTS OF PERSONS  
WITH HANDICAPS OR DISABILITIES/NON DISCRIMINATION

The Board of Education will comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, including changes made by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (hereafter referred to as the “Act.”)

A. Definitions

1. “Act” means the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008.
2. “Auxiliary aids and services” are identified based on the context of the communication and the individual’s disability. 28 CFR §35.104

They include, but are not limited to:

- a. Effective methods of making aurally delivered information available to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing;
  - b. Effective methods of making visually delivered materials available to individuals who are blind or have low vision;
  - c. Acquisition or modification of equipment or devices or similar services and actions; and
  - d. Other similar services and actions.
3. “Board” means the Board of Education of this school district.
  4. “Companion” means a family member, friend, or associate of an individual seeking access to a service, program, or activity of a school district, who, along with such individual, is an appropriate person with whom the district should communicate.



5. “Complete complaint” means a written statement, signed by the complainant or someone authorized to do so on his/her behalf, containing the complainant's name and address and describing the public entity's alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the agency of the nature and date of the alleged violation. 28 CFR §35.104
6. “Current illegal use of drugs” means illegal use of drugs that occurred recently enough to justify a reasonable belief that a person's drug use is current or that continuing use is a real and ongoing problem.
7. “Direct threat” means a significant risk to the health or safety of others that cannot be eliminated by a modification of policies, practices or procedures, or by the provision of auxiliary aids or services. 28 CFR §35.139
8. “Disability” means, with respect to an individual, that the individual meets one or more of the following three prongs:
  - a. A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual;
  - b. A record of such an impairment; or
  - c. Being regarded as having such an impairment.
9. “District” means this school district.
10. “District Coordinator” means the district official responsible for the coordination of activities relating to compliance with the Act.
11. “Drug” means a controlled substance, as defined in schedules I through V of Section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act. 21 U.S.C. §812
12. “Employee” means an individual employed by the Board.
13. “Essential functions of the employment position” are based upon the employer’s judgment and can include an employer’s written description, prepared before advertising or interviewing applicants for the job.



14. “Existing facility” means a facility in existence on any given date, newly constructed or altered.
15. “Facility” means all or any portion of buildings, property, or structures, including the site where the building, property, structure, or equipment is located.
16. “Illegal use of drugs” means the use of one or more drugs, the possession or distribution of which is unlawful under the Controlled Substances Act. 21 U.S.C. §812
17. “Individual with a disability” means a person who has a disability and does not include an individual currently engaging in the illegal use of drugs, when the district acts on the basis of such use.
18. “Major life activities” means those of central importance to daily life and include, but are not limited to, functions such as: caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, eating, sitting, reaching, writing, standing, reaching, lifting, sleeping, bending, speaking, breathing, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, interacting with others, learning, and working. “Major life activities” also includes physical or mental impairments that substantially limit the operation of a major bodily function, including, but not limited to: functions of the immune system, special sense organs and skin, normal cell growth, and digestive, genitourinary, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, cardiovascular, endocrine, hemic, lymphatic, musculoskeletal, reproductive systems, and the operation of an individual organ within a body system. 28 CFR §35.108; 28 CFR §36.105
19. “Mitigating measures” means steps taken to eliminate or reduce the symptoms or impact of an impairment. “Mitigating measures” include, but are not limited to: medication; medical equipment/appliances; mobility devices; low vision devices (not including ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses); prosthetics (including limbs and devices); hearing aids, cochlear implants, or other implantable hearing devices; oxygen therapy equipment and



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 4 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

supplies; the use of assistive technology; reasonable modifications or auxiliary aids or services; learned behavioral or adaptive neurological modifications; and psychotherapy, behavioral, or physical therapies. 42 U.S.C. 126 §12102

a. Mitigating measures, must not be used when determining whether an impairment is a disability except for the use of corrective eyeglasses or contact lenses. Mitigating measures may be considered in assessing whether someone is entitled to reasonable accommodation or poses a direct threat.

20. “Office for Civil Rights” (OCR) means the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.
21. “Other power-driven mobility device” means any mobility device powered by batteries, fuel, or other engines used by individuals with mobility disabilities for the purpose of locomotion, including any mobility device designed to operate in areas without defined pedestrian routes, but that is not a wheelchair. 28 CFR §35.104
22. “Physical or mental impairment” means any physiological disorder or condition such as, cosmetic disfigurement or anatomical loss affecting one or more body systems, such as neurological, musculoskeletal, special sense organs, respiratory (including speech organs), cardiovascular, reproductive, digestive, genitourinary, immune, circulatory, hemic and lymphatic, skin, and endocrine; or any mental or psychological disorder such as intellectual disability, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities. 28 CFR §35.108(b)(2) and 28 CFR §36.105(b)4



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 5 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

- a. Physical or mental impairments may include, but are not limited to: contagious and noncontagious diseases and conditions; orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments; cerebral palsy, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, intellectual disability, emotional illness, dyslexia and other specific learning disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) (whether symptomatic or asymptomatic), tuberculosis, drug addiction, and alcoholism.
  - b. Physical or mental impairments do not include: transvestism; transsexualism; homosexuality or bisexuality; gender identity disorders; sexual behavior disorders; pedophilia; exhibitionism; environmental, cultural, and economic disadvantages; pregnancy; physical characteristics; personality traits or behaviors; normal deviations in height, weight, or strength; compulsive gambling; kleptomania; pyromania; and psychoactive substance use disorders resulting from current illegal use of drugs.
  - c. An impairment that is episodic or in remission may be considered a “disability” if it would substantially limit a major life activity when active.
  - d. Not all impairments are disabilities.
23. “Public entity” means this Board of Education.
24. “Qualified individual” for the purposes of employment, means an individual who, with or without reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the employment position (based upon the employer’s judgment) that such individual holds or desires. An employer’s written description, prepared before advertising or interviewing applicants for the job, shall be considered evidence of the essential functions of the job. 42 U.S.C. 126 §12111(8)



25. “Reasonable accommodation” may include making existing facilities used by employees readily assessable to and usable by individuals with disabilities and job restructuring, part-time modified work schedules, reassignment to a vacant position, acquisition or modification of equipment or devices, appropriate adjustment or modifications of examinations, training materials or policies, the provision of qualified readers or interpreters, and other similar accommodations for individuals with disabilities.
26. “Record of such an impairment” means the individual has a history of, or has been misclassified as having a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.
27. “Regarded as having an impairment” means the individual establishes that he or she has been subjected to a prohibited action under the Act because of an actual or perceived physical or mental impairment, whether or not that impairment substantially limits or is perceived to substantially limit a major life activity.
- a. For this prong only, the public entity must demonstrate the impairment is or would be both transitory (lasting or expected to last six months or less) and minor to show an individual is not regarded as having such an impairment. 42 U.S.C. 126 §12102(3)(B)
- b. A public entity is not required to provide a reasonable modification to an individual meeting the definition of “disability” solely under the “regarded as” prong.
28. “Substantially limits” means the extent to which the impairment limits an individual’s ability to perform a major life activity as compared to most people in the general population, whether or not an individual chooses to forgo mitigating measures. 42 U.S.C. 126 §12102(4); 28 CFR §35.108(d); 28 CFR §35.105(d) The rules of construction when determining whether an impairment substantially limits performance of a major life activity include:



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 7 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act** ~~Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination~~

- a. That it is broadly construed in favor of expansive coverage, to the maximum extent permitted under the Act.
- b. That it does not demand extensive analysis.
- c. That it substantially limits one major life activity, but not necessarily other major life activities.
- d. That it may be episodic or in remission, as long as the impairment would substantially limit a major life activity when active.
- e. That it need not prevent, or significantly or severely restrict, an individual from performing a major life activity.
- f. That it requires an individualized assessment which does not create an “inappropriately high level of limitation” and is based upon the conditions, manner, or duration under which the individual can perform the major life activity 42 U.S.C. 12102(4)(B).
- g. That it generally will not require scientific, medical, or statistical evidence (although such evidence can be required where appropriate evidence that can be considered may include statements or affidavits of affected individuals and school records).
- h. That the determination is made without regard to ameliorative effects of mitigating measures, except for the use of ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses intended to fully correct visual acuity or eliminate refractive error. Non-ameliorative effects, such as the negative side effects of medication or a medical procedure, may also be considered.
- i. That the effects of an impairment lasting or expected to last less than six months can be substantially limiting for establishing a disability under the first two prongs: “actual disability” or “record of”.





29. “Undue hardship” means an action requiring significant difficulty or expense when considered in light of factors which include: the nature and cost of the needed accommodation; the overall financial resources of the district or facility providing the reasonable accommodation; the size of the district with respect to the number of employees; effect on expenses and resources, or the impact otherwise of accommodation upon the operation of the facilities; and the type/location of facilities. 42 U.S.C. 126 §12111 (10)
30. “Wheelchair” means a manually operated or power-driven device designed primarily for use by an individual with a mobility disability.
- B. General Requirements
1. Prohibitions Against Discrimination
- a. Discrimination is prohibited against a qualified individual on the basis of a disability. Such individual will not be excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of district services, programs, or activities or be subjected to discrimination by the district in accordance with 28 CFR §35.130. The district must ensure that:
- (1) When services, programs, and activities are viewed in their entirety, they are accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities; and
- (2) Access to services, programs, and activities is provided in an integrated setting unless separate programs are necessary to ensure equal benefits.
- b. The district is not required to take any action that would result in a fundamental alteration of the nature of the program or activity or undue financial or administrative burden. However, claiming undue burden still requires the district to provide access through means that would not result in a fundamental alteration or undue financial or administrative burden.



2. Direct Threat - 28 CFR §35.139
  - a. The district is not required to permit an individual to participate in or benefit from the district's services, programs, or activities when that individual poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others.
  - b. To determine whether an individual poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others, the district must make an individualized assessment, based on reasonable judgment that relies on current medical knowledge or on the best available objective evidence to ascertain:
    - (1) The nature, duration, and severity of the risk;
    - (2) The probability that the potential injury will actually occur; and
    - (3) Whether reasonable modifications of policies, practices, or procedures or the provision of auxiliary aids or services will mitigate the risk.
3. Illegal Use of Drugs - 28 CFR §35.131
  - a. The district will not discriminate on the basis of past illegal use of drugs against an individual who is not engaging in current illegal use of drugs and who:
    - (1) Has successfully completed a supervised drug rehabilitation program or has otherwise been rehabilitated successfully;
    - (2) Is participating in a supervised rehabilitation program; or
    - (3) Is erroneously regarded as engaging in such use.



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 10 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

- b. While the Act does not prohibit discrimination against an individual based on that individual's current illegal use of drugs, the district will not deny health services or services provided in connection with drug rehabilitation to an individual on the basis of that individual's current illegal use of drugs, if the individual is otherwise entitled to such services.
  - c. The Act does not prohibit the district from adopting or administering reasonable policies or procedures, including but not limited to drug testing, designed to ensure that an individual who formerly engaged in the illegal use of drugs is not now engaging in current illegal use of drugs.
- C. Personal Devices and Services
1. The district will permit individuals with mobility disabilities to use wheelchairs and manually powered mobility aids such as walkers, crutches, canes, braces, or other similar devices designed for use by individuals with mobility disabilities in any areas open to pedestrian use. 28 CFR §35.137
  2. The district will make reasonable modifications to permit the use of other power-driven mobility devices by individuals with mobility disabilities unless the district can demonstrate that the power-driven device cannot be operated in accordance with legitimate safety requirements pursuant to 28 CFR §35.137. The district will not ask an individual using a wheelchair or other power-driven mobility device questions about the nature and extent of the individual's disability. The district may require the individual to provide credible assurance that the device is required because of the person's disability.
  3. The district is not required to provide individuals with disabilities personal devices, such as wheelchairs; individually prescribed devices such as prescription eyeglasses or hearing aids; readers for personal use or study; or services of a personal nature including assistance in eating, toileting, or dressing pursuant to 28 CFR §35.135.



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 11 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

D. Employment - 42 U.S.C. 126 §12112

1. Discrimination in Employment

- a. The Board will not discriminate against a qualified individual on the basis of disability in regard to job application procedures; hiring, advancement, or discharge; compensation; job training; and other terms, conditions, and privileges of employment.
- b. Applicants and employees working for or applying to work for the district who qualify for a job and are able to perform the essential functions of that job are entitled to reasonable accommodations provided that such accommodations do not pose undue hardship for the district.
- c. Nothing in the Act shall be construed to preempt, modify, or amend any State, county, or local law, ordinance, or regulation as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:32-4.1 et seq.
- d. The school district may not, on the basis of disability:
  - (1) Limit, segregate, or classify a qualified individual in a way that adversely affects his/her opportunities or status of such employee, applicant, or participant in a contractual or other arrangement;
  - (2) Utilize standards, criteria, or methods of administration that have the effect of discrimination on the basis of disability or perpetuate the discrimination of others subject to common administrative control;
  - (3) Exclude or otherwise deny equal jobs or benefits to a qualified individual because of the known disability of an individual with whom the qualified individual is known to associate or have a relationship;



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 12 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

- (4) Fail to make reasonable accommodations to known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability or deny employment opportunities to such qualified individual unless the district can demonstrate that the accommodation would impose undue hardship to district operations;
- (5) Use qualification standards, employment tests, or other selection criteria that screen out or tend to screen out individuals with disabilities unless the standard, test, or other selection criteria, as used by the district, is shown to be job-related for the position in question and consistent with business necessity; and/or
- (6) Select and administer tests concerning employment to otherwise qualified individuals who possess impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills, unless done in an effective manner to ensure that, when such tests are administered to a job applicant or employee who has a disability that impairs sensory, manual, or speaking skills, the test results accurately reflect the skills, aptitude, or other factors such tests purport to measure rather than reflecting the impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills of the employee or applicant (except where such skills are the factors that the test purports to measure).

2. Medical Examinations and Inquiries - (42 U.S.C. 126 §12112)

a. Pre-employment

- (1) Prohibited examination or inquiries:
  - (a) Whether such an applicant is an individual with a disability; or
  - (b) The nature or severity of such disability.



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 13 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

- (2) Acceptable inquiry:
  - (a) The ability of an applicant to perform job-related functions.
- b. Employment Entrance Examinations
  - (1) The district may require a medical examination after an offer of employment has been made to a job applicant and prior to the commencement of the employment duties of such applicant, and may condition an offer of employment on the results of such examination, if:
    - (a) All entering employees are subject to such an examination regardless of disability;
    - (b) Information obtained regarding the medical condition or history of the applicant is collected and maintained on separate forms and in separate medical files and is treated as a confidential medical record, except that:
      - i. Supervisors and managers may be informed regarding necessary restrictions on work or duties of the employees and necessary accommodations;
      - ii. First aid and safety personnel may be informed, when appropriate, if the disability might require emergency treatment; and
      - iii. Government officials investigating compliance with this Act, will be provided relevant information on request.
  - (2) The results of such examination shall only be used in accordance with these provisions.



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 14 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

- c. Examination and Inquiry:
  - (1) Prohibited examinations and inquiries:
    - (a) The district will not require a medical examination and will not make inquiries of an employee as to whether such employee is an individual with a disability or as to the nature or severity of the disability, unless such examination or inquiry is shown to be job-related and consistent with business necessity.
  - (2) Acceptable examinations and inquiries:
    - (a) The district may conduct voluntary medical examinations, including voluntary medical histories, which are part of an employee health program available to employees in the district.
    - (b) The district may make inquiries into the ability of an employee to perform job-related functions.
- 3. Defenses - 42 U.S.C. 126 §12113
  - a. Qualification Standards
    - (1) It may be a defense to a charge of discrimination under the Act that an alleged application of qualification standards, tests, or selection criteria that screen out, tend to screen out, or otherwise deny a job or benefit to an individual with a disability has been shown to be job-related and consistent with business necessity, and such performance cannot be accomplished by reasonable accommodation, as required under the Act.



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 15 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

- (a) The term "qualification standards" may include a requirement that an individual will not pose a direct threat to the health or safety of other individuals in the workplace.
  - (b) Notwithstanding 42 U.S.C. 126 §12102 (4)(E)(ii), the Board will not use qualification standards, employment tests, or other selection criteria based on an individual's uncorrected vision unless the standard, test, or other selection criteria, as used by the covered entity, is shown to be job-related for the position in question and consistent with business necessity.
- b. Infectious and Communicable Diseases
- (1) In any case in which an individual has an infectious or communicable disease included on the list developed by the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services in accordance with the Act, and which cannot be eliminated by reasonable accommodation, and that is transmitted to others through the handling of food, the Board and its administration may refuse to assign or allow such individual to continue to work in a job involving food handling.
- c. Illegal Use of Drugs and Alcohol - 42 U.S.C. 126 §12114
- (1) An individual with a disability shall not include any employee or applicant who is currently engaging in the illegal use of drugs, with exceptions noted in section B.3. of this Regulation.





- (2) The Board will hold an employee who engages in the illegal use of drugs or who is an alcoholic to the same qualification standards for employment or job performance and behavior as other employees, even if any unsatisfactory performance or behavior is related to the drug use or alcoholism of such employee.

d. Drug Testing

- (1) For the purposes of the Act, a test to determine the illegal use of drugs will not be considered a medical examination.
- (2) No provision of the Act shall be construed to encourage, prohibit, or authorize the conducting of drug testing for the illegal use of drugs by job applicants or employees or making employment decisions based on such test results.

E. Program Accessibility

1. Discrimination Prohibited

- a. Except as otherwise provided in 28 CFR §35.150, no qualified individual with a disability will, because the district's facilities are inaccessible to or unusable by individuals with disabilities, including inside or outside access to such facilities, may be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of the district, or be subjected to discrimination by the district.
- b. The district will maintain facilities and equipment required by the Act to be readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. This provision does not prohibit isolated or temporary interruptions in service or access due to maintenance or repairs. 28 CFR §35.133



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 17 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

- (1) In regard to existing facilities, the district will operate each service, program, or activity so that the service, program, or activity, when viewed in its entirety, is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.
  - (a) The district is not required to fundamentally alter the nature of a service, program, or activity, or assume undue financial or administrative burdens, or take any action threatening the historic significance of a historic property and has the burden of proving that compliance with the Act would result in such alterations or burdens. 28 CFR §35.150(a)
  - (b) Should the Board and Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee determine, after considering all resources available, that compliance would result in such alteration or burden, a written statement of reasons must accompany such a determination.
  - (c) The Board will take any other action, including, but not limited to redesign or acquisition of equipment, or reassignment of services or staff, that would not result in such alteration or burden, but would, nevertheless, ensure that individuals with disabilities receive the benefits/services provided by the district.
- (2) In regard to new construction and alterations, each facility or part of a facility constructed by, on behalf of, or for the use of the district will be designed and constructed in such manner, in accordance with 28 CFR §35.151, that the facility or part of the facility is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 18 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

- (a) Full compliance with the requirements of 28 CFR §35.151 is not required where the district can demonstrate that it is structurally impracticable to meet the requirements.
  - (b) If providing accessibility in conformance with 28 CFR §35.151 to individuals with certain disabilities (e.g., those who use wheelchairs) would be structurally impracticable, accessibility shall nonetheless be ensured to persons with other types of disabilities, (e.g., those who use crutches or who have sight, hearing, or mental impairments) in accordance with 28 CFR §35.151.
- F. Communications - 28 CFR §35.160
- 1. The district will take appropriate steps to ensure that communications with applicants, participants, members of the public, and companions with disabilities are as effective as communications with others.
  - 2. The district will furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services where necessary to afford individuals with disabilities, including applicants, participants, companions, and members of the public, an equal opportunity to participate in and enjoy the benefits of a service, program, or activity conducted by the district.
    - a. Auxiliary aids and services will be provided in accessible formats, in a timely manner, and in such a way as to protect the privacy and independence of the individual with a disability.
    - b. The district will not require an individual with a disability to bring another individual to interpret with a disability. The district will not rely on an adult accompanying an individual with a disability or on a minor child to interpret



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 19 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act** ~~Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination~~

or facilitate communication, except in an emergency involving an imminent threat to the safety or welfare of an individual or the public where there is no interpreter available; or where the individual with a disability specifically requests that the accompanying adult interprets or facilitates communication, the accompanying adult agrees to provide such assistance, and reliance on that adult is appropriate under the circumstances.

3. Where the district communicates by telephone with applicants and beneficiaries who are deaf, hard of hearing, or who have speech impairments, text telephones (TTYs) or equally effective telecommunications systems equipped with emergency service access will be used to communicate, in the same time and manner as with other telephone systems (including automated systems). 28 CFR §35.161
  4. The district will ensure that interested persons, including persons with impaired vision or hearing, can obtain information as to the existence and location of accessible services, activities, and facilities, including signage at all inaccessible facility entrances. 28 CFR §35.163
- G. Grievance Procedure - 28 CFR §35.107(b)
1. A complainant who believes that he/she has been harmed or adversely affected by a discriminatory practice or act prohibited by law and/or policy shall first discuss the matter with his/her immediate supervisor in an attempt to resolve the matter informally.
  2. If the matter is not resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant within thirty working days, the complainant may submit a written complaint to the District Coordinator. The complaint will include:
    - a. The complainant's name and address;
    - b. The specific act or practice of which the complainant complains;



ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 20 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

- c. The employee, if any, responsible for the allegedly discriminatory act;
  - d. Results of discussions conducted in accordance with paragraph G.1. above; and
  - e. Reasons why those results are not satisfactory.
3. The District Coordinator will investigate the matter informally and will respond to the complainant in writing no later than seven working days after receipt of the written complaint. A copy of the complaint and the response will be forwarded to the Superintendent.
  4. The response of the District Coordinator may be appealed to the Superintendent in writing within three working days after it has been received by the complainant. The appeal will include the original complaint, the response to the complaint, and the complainant's reason for rejecting the response. A copy of the appeal must be given to the staff member alleged to have acted discriminatorily.
  5. On his/her timely request (that is, submitted before the expiration of the time within which the Superintendent must render a decision), the complainant will be given an informal hearing before the Superintendent, at a time and place convenient to the parties, but no later than seven working days after the request for a hearing has been submitted. The Superintendent may also require at the hearing the presence of the staff member charged with a discriminatory act and any other person with knowledge of the complained act.
  6. The Superintendent will render a written decision in the matter no later than seven working days after the appeal was filed or the hearing was held, whichever occurred later. Copies of the decision will be given to all parties.



# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 21 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

7. The complainant may appeal the Superintendent's decision to the Board by filing a written appeal with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary no later than three working days after receipt of the Superintendent's decision. The appeal shall include:
  - a. The original complaint;
  - b. The response to the complaint;
  - c. The Superintendent's decision;
  - d. A transcript of the hearing, if one has been made, or a summary of the hearing to which all parties have consented; and
  - e. The complainant's reason for believing the Superintendent's decision should be changed.
8. If a staff member is charged with a discriminatory act, the Board will provide a copy of the appeal to that staff member.
9. The Board will review all papers submitted and may render a decision on the basis of the proceedings below. If the complainant so requests, the Board may convene a hearing, at which all parties may be represented by counsel and may present and examine witnesses, who will testify under oath.
10. The Board will render a written decision no later than forty-five calendar days after the appeal was filed or the hearing held, whichever occurred later. Copies of the decision will be given to all parties.
11. The complainant will be informed of his/her right to appeal the Board's decision to the:

U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Civil Rights Division  
Disability Rights Section – 1425 NYAV  
Washington, D.C. 20530



# REGULATION

## RANDOLPH BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

R 1510/page 22 of 22

**Americans with Disabilities Act Rights of Persons  
With Handicaps or Disabilities/Non-Discrimination**

12. An individual who believes he or she or a specific class of individuals has been subjected to discrimination on the basis of disability by the district may, by himself/herself, or an authorized representative, at any time, file a complaint directly with OCR.
13. Record:
  - a. The record of any complaint processed in accordance with this procedure will be maintained in a file kept by the District Coordinator.
  - b. A copy of the decision rendered at the highest level of appeal will be kept in the employee's personnel file.

Adopted: 15 January 2013

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

