



## Services

The FNSBSD provides many special education services and supports.

- Screenings and Evaluations
- Vision Services
- Deaf/Hard of Hearing Services
- Special Education Preschools
- Life Skills Classrooms
- Academic Support
- Assistive Technology
- Occupational, Physical and Speech Therapy
- Autism and Behavioral Support
- Sign Language Interpreters
- Vocational Training
- Emotional Support



For additional information please contact the Special Education Department

(907) 452-2000  
x 11489

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Suite E  
520 Fifth Ave,  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Office hours:  
7:30 AM-5:00 PM



### Web Resources:

FNSBD Special Education:  
[k12northstar.org/departments/sped](http://k12northstar.org/departments/sped)

Alaska State Special Education:  
[eed.state.ak.us/tls/sped](http://eed.state.ak.us/tls/sped)

## Special Education Services and Support

Delivering specialized instruction to students who have a disability.



Fairbanks North  
Star Borough  
School District



## Serving Students Ages 3-22

### What is Special Education?

Special education is defined as *instruction that is specially designed to meet the unique needs of children with disabilities*. The FNSBSD complies with federal law and state regulations in order to ensure that all children with disabilities receive a free appropriate public education.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is the federal law that governs how states provide early intervention, special education and related services. The Alaska Administrative Code provides additional guidelines for districts to follow to ensure that the rights of children with disabilities are protected.

Special education services are delivered to children in accordance with an Individual Education Program, a plan developed for each eligible child by a specialized team, including the child's parent or guardian. Services can only be provided with parental/guardian consent.

### Who is Eligible for Special Education?

As mandated in the IDEA, to be eligible for special education and related services a child must have a disability and must, because of the disability, require specially designed instruction. Eligibility is determined based on a full and individual evaluation. A specialized team, including the child's parent or guardian, reviews the evaluation results and determines whether the child has a disability and is in need of services.

Alaska regulations specify eligibility criteria for 14 disability categories: cognitive impairment, specific learning disability, emotional disturbance, deafness, hearing impairment, deaf and blind, orthopedic impairment, visual impairment, speech or language impairment, other health impaired, multiple disabilities, early childhood developmental delay, autism, and traumatic brain injury.

### If you have concerns about your Preschool child...

- If you suspect your child struggles with age appropriate skills, you may want to consider a screening through Child Find.
- Child Find is offered for children ages 3-5 and is free of charge.
- A phone interview will determine if a screening is necessary.
- At the screening, your child's hearing and vision will be checked and they will be asked to complete age appropriate tasks. If necessary, a further evaluation will be suggested.
- Call 452-2000 x11445 to inquire.

### If you have concerns about your School-Aged child...

- Contact your child's teacher with your concerns.
- Each building has a specialized team that will meet with you and plan the next steps for your child.
- Steps may include planning intervention strategies based on review of your child's class work, assessment data and prior progress.
- Team meets periodically to review progress.
- A referral for a special education evaluation may be recommended if student is not making progress with interventions.