

EUT POLICY ON CHILD FIND

The EUT shall maintain and implement policies and procedures to ensure that all children residing in the jurisdiction between the ages of 3 and 20 years, including children with disabilities who are homeless children, are wards of the State or state agency clients, children with disabilities attending private schools and receiving home instruction, highly mobile children (including migrant or homeless), children who have the equivalent of 10 full days of unexcused absences or 7 consecutive school days of unexcused absences during a school year, and children incarcerated in county jails, and who are in need of special education and related services, even though they are advancing from grade to grade, are identified, located and evaluated at public expense.

The EUT shall provide child find during the first 30 days of the school year or during the first 30 days of enrollment for transfer children. If evidence of child find activities and a statement of the results can be found in a child's cumulative record, or the unit has reason to believe the child has previously been identified as a child with a disability by another SAU, in state or out of state, child find is not necessary.

This child find responsibility shall be accomplished through a unit-wide process which, while not a definitive or final judgment of a child's capabilities or disability, is a possible indicator of special education needs. Final identification of children with disabilities and programming for such children occurs only after an appropriate evaluation and a determination by the IEP Team.

The child find process in the EUT shall include obtaining data on each child, through multiple measures, direct assessment, and parent information, regarding the child's academic and functional performance, gross and fine motor skills, receptive and expressive language skills, vision, hearing, and cognitive skills. If the child find process indicates that a child may require special education and related services in order to benefit from regular education, the child shall be referred to the Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team to determine the child's eligibility for special educational services. Legal Reference: [34 CFR 300.111(a)(i,ii) and (c) (1,2)] Maine DOE M.U.S.E.R Chapter 101 §§IV.2.A-C (2017) Policy Adopted February 9, 2022