

## 500 INSTRUCTIONAL, continued

### 505 Special Education and Related Services

505.1 Educational Service District 112 is responsible for and provides a free, appropriate, public education, including special education and related services, to individuals, ages 3 to 21, who reside in school districts that are members of the ESD 112 Special Education Cooperative (Cooperative Member Districts) and are eligible for special education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act. In providing special education and related services, the ESD recognizes that individuals whose disabilities adversely impact educational performance and who require specially designed instruction can obtain meaningful educational benefit when they receive special education and related services tailored to fit their needs. It is the policy of the ESD to provide a free, appropriate, public education in the least restrictive environment to all eligible individuals, ages 3 to 21, who reside in the Cooperative Member Districts.

Special education programs for students eligible for special education are an integral part of the educational programs of the Cooperative Member Districts. The special education programs the ESD administers shall be operated in compliance with federal and state requirements governing special education. The ESD will provide a continuum of placement options that may include the provision of services within and/or outside the Cooperative Member Districts as may be necessary to meet the student's needs.

505.2 Not all students with disabilities are eligible for special education services. Cooperative Member Districts, with assistance from the ESD, shall assess the needs of individuals with disabilities. The Cooperative Member Districts shall provide disabled students that are not eligible to receive special education services accommodations or modifications as may be required under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act in accordance with their own district's policy and procedures.

505.3 The board authorizes the ESD superintendent or a designee to bind the ESD to a special education mediation or resolution agreement.

505.4 Decisions regarding graduation and participation in commencement exercises for any student receiving special education services through the ESD 112 Special Education Cooperative shall be made by the school district where the student resides, in accordance with that district's board policies and regulations.

505.5 The ESD superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall develop and maintain special education procedures necessary to implement this policy and shall assist Member Districts in developing and maintaining special education policies and procedures that are consistent with this policy. This policy and the procedures that implement the policy shall be available to the public.