

SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE (SOP)

THE SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE (SOP) IS A REQUIREMENT OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA 2004). STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WHOSE ELIGIBILITY UNDER SPECIAL EDUCATION TERMINATES DUE TO GRADUATION WITH A STANDARD DIPLOMA OR DUE TO EXCEEDING THE AGE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR FREE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION MUST BE PROVIDED WITH A SOP THAT SUMMARIZES THE CHILD'S ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND FUNCTIONAL PERFORMANCE.

THE SOP FORM MUST INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO ASSIST THE CHILD IN MEETING THE CHILD'S POSTSECONDARY GOALS. THE LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY (LEA) IS RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLETING THE SOP. *IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE STUDENT PARTICIPATES AND PROVIDES INFORMATION RELATED TO HIS/HER SOP.*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q: IF THE HIGH SCHOOL HAS ALREADY COMPLETED THE IEP MEETING FOR GRADUATION, CAN THE SOP BE COMPLETED WITH THE STUDENT AND A COPY SENT TO THE HOME?

A: THE SOP DOES NOT HAVE TO BE COMPLETED AT AN IEP MEETING; HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE COMPLETED WITH THE STUDENT AND ATTACHED TO THE FAPE FORM. BOTH FORMS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE STUDENTS AS WELL AS THE PARENT(S) PRIOR TO THE STUDENT GRADUATING WITH A STANDARD DIPLOMA OR EXCEEDING THE AGE OF ELIGIBILITY.

Q: IS A SOP FORM REQUIRED FOR A STUDENT WHO IS GRADUATING WITH A SPECIAL DIPLOMA?

A: THE SOP FORM IS REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE GRADUATING WITH A STANDARD DIPLOMA OR WHO ARE EXCEEDING THE AGE OF ELIGIBILITY. STUDENTS WHO ARE GRADUATING WITH A SPECIAL DIPLOMA MAINTAIN THEIR RIGHT TO A FREE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND DO NOT REQUIRE THE SOP FORM UNLESS THEY ARE EXCEEDING THE AGE OF ELIGIBILITY.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

THE STUDENT AND HIS OR HER FAMILY SHOULD HAVE A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THE SKILLS THE STUDENT HAS MASTERED THUS FAR (ACADEMIC AND FUNCTIONAL). THEY SHOULD ALSO HAVE IDEAS OF WHAT THE STUDENT AND THE STUDENT'S SUPPORT NETWORK CAN DO AS "NEXT STEPS" TO REACH POST-SECONDARY GOALS.