

Disabilities Grant Program

What is the documentation of a disability for the Disabilities Grant?

Eligible students will have an Individualized Education Program, or IEP, from a North Carolina public school. An IEP is more than a single document. Numerous types of documents explain different steps in the IEP process. Most public schools use the label “DEC” (Division of Exceptional Children) to identify their IEP documents.

In the public schools, children are first evaluated to determine their eligibility for special education. The DEC3 Eligibility Determination is generated at the time of the evaluation or re-evaluation. The Disabilities Grant Program needs the most recent DEC3 a student has. The DEC3 may not be the most recent IEP document a family has received.

What does the DEC3 look like?

The DEC3 is 1-2 pages, says Eligibility Determination across the top, and concludes with a list of the IEP team names. The Disabilities Grant Program cannot use the DEC3 worksheets without the DEC3 Eligibility Determination. The Disabilities Grant Program cannot use the DEC4 or DEC7 or other IEP documents. Note that a 504 Plan is not an IEP.

What are the requirements concerning the date of the DEC3?

The date of the DEC3 Eligibility Determination must be within the last three years. For new applicants applying for the 2017-18 school year, the student must have a DEC3 dated 1/1/2014 or later to be considered. For fall 2017 disbursement of funds, the document on record must be dated 9/1/14 or later. For spring 2018 disbursement of funds, the document must be dated 1/1/15 or later.

How do I track down the right document?

If your child has a DEC4 Annual Review, then at some point a DEC3 had to have been created. The DEC3 starts the IEP process. A new one is created every three years when a child is re-evaluated. Look through your stack of public school IEP paperwork to see if you can find the DEC3. If not, contact the public school to see if they will email you a copy which you can forward to the Disabilities Grant Program. Ask the public school for *the most recent DEC3 Eligibility Determination*.

Remember that the evaluation date which is documented by the DEC3 Eligibility Determination must be within the last three years. The Disabilities Grant Program requires a public school document. The nonpublic school cannot do the evaluation or re-evaluation.

Disabilities Grant Program

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Eligibility Determination DEC 3

ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

Check Purpose: Initial Eligibility Reevaluation

Student: Student Name

School: School Name

Grade: Grade

Meeting Date: Date

SAMPLE