Notice of Child Find in Private Schools

This letter is to serve as official notice to your educational agency that school districts are obligated under both federal and state law to engage in “Child Find;” that is to identify, locate and evaluate students who are suspected of having a disability in private schools located within the district. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act was reauthorized in 2004; requiring each LEA to conduct Child Find, determine the proportionate share of Part B funds, and provide services based on the number of parentally placed private school children with disabilities who attend private schools located in the LEA, without regard to where the children reside.

If you suspect a student in your school has a disability, please contact the special education department of the LEA in your area for information on how to proceed. Please note that prior to referral, modifications /accommodations should be made to the student’s regular education curriculum. This is in compliance with California Education Code Section 56303 that states, “A pupil shall be referred for special education instruction and services only after the resources of the regular education program have been considered and, where appropriate utilized.”

If you have any questions or are unsure concerning which school district to contact, please telephone the San Luis Obispo County SELPA at 805.782.7301.