

## Inclusion in Illinois Conference

Inclusive education means educating all students in the general classroom, regardless of their strengths or weakness in any area. It is the hope of the Illinois Conference to provide a Christian education to as many Adventist children as possible, even if they have special needs. The Office of Education is here to support the teachers and principals as they make admission decisions, and as they try to create a successful environment for these students.

Students coming to our schools with special needs will be evaluated through the following procedures:

1. Administer the **New Student Interview**.
2. Review special education records when indicated.
3. Have the parents sign the **Parent Release for Students with Special Needs** form, recognizing that the teacher is not able to meet all of the special needs of the student, nor fulfill an IEP (Individualized Educational Plan), and they do not hold the school or teaching personnel liable in its efforts to provide an education for their child.
4. If a student has been tested for a learning issue or already has an Individual Educational Plan (IEP) in place, call the conference office to help make a Modified Action Plan for the student.
5. If the student has not been tested, but the teacher feels that the student is struggling academically or behaviorally and would like to have the student tested to determine if there is a learning disability, fill out a **Student Referral** form and send it to the Conference Office of Education.
6. Have the parents sign the **Parental Permission for Testing** form.
7. The Director of Special Education will contact the teacher to set up a time for testing, which will take place in the school.
8. If the testing shows an area of weakness or learning disability, a Modified Action Plan will be made listing accommodations and modifications to help the student become more successful. The Modified Action Plan should be developed by the teacher, principal, Director of Special Education, parents, and when appropriate, the student.
9. The Director of Special Education will work with the teacher on implementing the Modified Action Plan.
10. Teachers should hold regular meetings with the parents and student to determine the progress being made, and make adjustments to the Modified Action Plan as needed.
11. Refer student to the public school if further testing is needed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Lori Aguilera at the Illinois Conference Office at (630) 856-2873.

