



Mission

Our mission is to actively represent children/youth with disabilities and impact decisions made on their behalf to enhance the quality of educational services.

Purpose

The Colorado Special Education Advisory Committee (CSEAC) is a state level committee mandated by federal and state law that:

- Provides input and assistance to the State Board of Education
- Advises the State Director of the Exceptional Student Leadership Unit
- Advocates for communication, cooperation and partnership among educational service providers, children/youth, parents and administrators
- Serves as a liaison between parents of children/youth with special needs, local educational agencies and the Colorado Department of Education Exceptional Student Leadership Unit

Composition

The State Board of Education, with recommendations of the Advisory Committee, appoints members of CSEAC. Appointments to CSEAC must be representative of the State population and include individuals concerned with the education of children/youth with disabilities including:

- Parents of children/youth with disabilities
- Individuals with disabilities
- Teachers
- State and local education officials, including officials who carry out activities under Subtitle B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- Administrators of programs for children with disabilities
- Representatives from:
 - Institutions of higher education that prepare special education and related services personnel
 - Other state agencies involved in the financing or delivery of related services
 - Private schools and charter schools
 - Vocational, community or business organizations concerned with the provision of transition services
 - Division of Youth Corrections
 - Colorado Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Division

Membership is governed by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 and the Exceptional Children's Educational Act. Representatives from various educational agencies or support and advocacy organizations are encouraged to apply for any vacancies. Interested persons can self-nominate or be nominated by another person.

Vacancies that have not expired can be filled by appointments of the Co-chairs, with the confirmation of the State Director of Exceptional Student Leadership at the Colorado Department of Education.

The majority of the members must be individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities.

Time Commitment

The term of appointment is two years. Members may be appointed for successive terms, not to exceed three terms. CSEAC meets officially five times per year including a two-day retreat. In addition, each member participates on at least one of five standing committees. Attendance is expected at all meetings with a requirement of not missing more than two meetings.