

Students

REFERRAL & ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS WITH ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER

ADD (Attention Deficit Disorder) students may or may not be eligible for Special Education instruction. Under Section 504, they may meet the definition of handicapped but not necessarily meet eligibility for IDEA (Individuals with Disability Education Act-- PL94-142).

The IDEA defines as eligible only students who have certain specified types of impairments and who, because of one of those conditions, need special education. Section 504, on the other hand, protects all handicapped students, defined as those having any physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities (including learning). Section 504 covers all students who meet this definition, even if they do not fall within the IDEA-enumerated categories and even if they do not need to be in a special education program.

Basically if a person is handicapped, has ever been handicapped, or considers himself handicapped, and this handicap is causing a disability in a major life function, he falls under Section 504.

However, this definition does not necessarily guarantee Special Education service--it only guarantees accommodations in the regular education classroom.

ADD students may meet eligibility requirements under Learning Disability, Severely Emotionally Disturbed, or Other Health Impaired (must adversely affect education.)