# **Section 504**



# What rights do parents or guardians have under Section 504?

- » Request a hearing with respect to the school's actions regarding the identification, evaluation, or placement of their child
- » File a grievance complaint with the school's Section 504 Coordinator or with the Office for Civil Rights online or by calling the regional office
- » Receive notice about the identification, evaluation and/ or placement of their child
- » Examine their child's educational records
- » A 504 plan that is periodically reviewed



### What does a 504 plan include?

It includes the accommodations and services that the individual student needs and provides equal access to the same educational programs and activities available to non-disabled peers.

#### **Fact Sheet for Families**



#### What is Section 504?

Section 504 is part of a long-standing federal civil rights law that guarantees certain protections to people with disabilities.



### Who does Section 504 protect?

Section 504 protects people with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity, such as caring for one's self, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, working, performing manual tasks, and learning.



## Section 504 and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) both:

- » Provide protections for students with disabilities. However, while all students in special education are protected under Section 504, not all students covered by Section 504 are eligible for special education.
- » Require schools to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to students with disabilities. Section 504 and IDEA define FAPE differently.

### Office for Civil Rights (OCR):

In Texas, if you have a question or would like to file a complaint about Section 504, contact the Office for Civil Rights (OCR).



OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov



816.268.0550

#### Section 504 Parent and Educator Resource Guide:





