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into the Standard Agreement or that an agreement cannot be entered into with the State and the reasons for that determination.

[50 FR 47220, Nov. 15, 1985, as amended at 50 FR 49930, Dec. 6, 1985; 68 FR 36914, June 20, 2003]

§ 78.6 Responsibilities.

(a) The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) shall provide guidance, monitor compliance with this part, and have the authority to change or modify the procedures set forth.

(b) The Secretaries of the Military Departments and Heads of the other Uniformed Services shall comply with this part.

§ 78.7 Standard agreement.

Standard Agreement For Voluntary State Tax Withholding From The Retired Pay Of Uniformed Service Members

Article I—Purpose

This agreement, hereafter referred to as the "Standard Agreement," establishes administrative procedures and assigns responsibilities for voluntary State tax withholding from the retired pay of Uniformed Service members consistent with section 654 of the Department of Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1985 (Pub. L. 98-525), codified as 10 U.S.C. 1045.

Article II—Parties

The parties to this agreement are the Department of Defense on behalf of the Uniformed Services and the State that has entered into this agreement pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1045.

Article III—Procedures

The parties to the Standard Agreement are bound by the provisions in title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, part 78. The Secretary of Defense may amend, modify, supplement, or change the procedures for voluntary State tax withholding from retired pay of Uniformed Service members after giving notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER. In the event of any such changes, the State will be given 45 days to terminate this agreement.

Article IV—Reporting

Copies of Internal Revenue Service Form 1099R, "Distribution From Pensions, Annuities, Retirement, or Profit Sharing Plan, IRAs, Insurance Contracts, etc." may be used for reporting withheld taxes to the State. The media for reporting (paper copy,

magnetic tape, electronic file transfer, etc.) will comply with the state reporting standards that apply to employers in general.

Article V—Other Provisions

A. This agreement shall be subject to any amendment of 10 U.S.C. 1045 and any regulations issued pursuant to such statutory change.

B. In addition to the provisions of Article III, the agreement may be terminated by a party to the Standard Agreement by providing the other party with written notice to that effect at least 90 days before the proposed termination.

C. Nothing in this agreement shall be deemed to:

1. Require the collection of delinquent tax liabilities of retired members of the Uniformed Services;

2. Consent to the application of any provision of State law that has the effect of imposing more burdensome requirements upon the United States than the State imposes on other employers, or subjecting the United States or any member to any penalty or liability;

3. Consent to procedures for withholding, filing of returns, and payment of the withheld taxes to States that do not conform to the usual fiscal practices of the Uniformed Services;

4. Allow the Uniformed Services to accept payment from a State for any services performed with regard to State income tax withholding from the retired pay of Uniformed Service members.

[50 FR 47220, Nov. 15, 1985, as amended at 68 FR 36915, June 20, 2003]

PART 80—PROVISION OF EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE INFANTS AND TODDLERS WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES, AND SPECIAL EDUCATION CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES WITHIN THE SECTION 6 SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

Sec.

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APPENDIX A TO PART 80—PROCEDURES FOR THE PROVISION OF EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS WITH DISABILITIES, AGES 0-2 (INCLUSIVE), AND THEIR FAMILIES

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APPENDIX B TO PART 80—PROCEDURES FOR SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS (INCLUDING RELATED SERVICES) AND FOR PRESCHOOL CHILDREN AND CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (3–21 YEARS INCLUSIVE)

APPENDIX C TO PART 80—HEARING PROCEDURES

AUTHORITY: 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.; 20 U.S.C. 241; 20 U.S.C. 241 note.

SOURCE: 59 FR 37680, July 25, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

§ 80.1 Purpose.

This part:

(a) Establishes policies and procedures for the provision of early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities (birth to age 2 inclusive) and their families, and special education and related services to children with disabilities (ages 3–21 inclusive) entitled to receive special educational instruction or early intervention services from the Department of Defense under Pub. L. 81–874, sec. 6, as amended; Pub. L. 97–35, sec. 505(c); the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Pub. L. 94–142, as amended; Pub. L. 102–119, sec. 23; and consistent with 32 CFR parts 285 and 310, and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedures (28 U.S.C.).

(b) Establishes policy, assigns responsibilities, and prescribes procedures for:

(1) Implementation of a comprehensive, multidisciplinary program of early intervention services for infants and toddlers ages birth through 2 years (inclusive) with disabilities and their families.

(2) Provision of a free, appropriate education including special education and related services for preschool children with disabilities and children with disabilities enrolled in the Department of Defense Section 6 School Arrangements.

(c) Establishes a Domestic Advisory Panel (DAP) on Early Intervention and Education for Infants, Toddlers, Preschool Children and Children with Disabilities, and a DoD Coordinating Committee on Domestic Early Intervention, Special Education and Related Services.

(d) Authorizes the publication of DoD Regulations and Manuals, consistent

with DoD 5025.1–M,¹ and DoD forms consistent with DoD 5000.12–M² and DoD Directive 8910.1³ to implement this part.

§ 80.2 Applicability and scope.

This part:

(a) Applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Unified and Specified Commands, the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, and the DoD Field Agencies (hereafter referred to collectively as “the DoD Components”).

(b) Encompasses infants, toddlers, preschool children, and children receiving or entitled to receive early intervention services or special educational instruction from the DoD on installations with Section 6 School Arrangements, and the parents of those individuals with disabilities.

(c) Applies only to schools operated by the Department of Defense within the Continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Wake Island, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands.

§ 80.3 Definitions.

(a) *Assistive technology device*. Any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially or off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.

(b) *Assistive technology service*. Any service that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device. This term includes:

(1) Evaluating the needs of an individual with a disability, including a functional evaluation of the individual in the individual's customary environment.

¹Copies may be obtained, at cost, from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161.

²See footnote 1 to § 80.1(c).

³See footnote 1 to § 80.1(c).

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(2) Purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices by individuals with disabilities.

(3) Selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining, repairing, or replacing of assistive technology devices.

(4) Coordinating and using other therapies, interventions, or services with assistive technology devices, such as those associated with existing educational and rehabilitative plans and programs.

(5) Training or technical assistance for an individual with disabilities, or, where appropriate, the family of an individual with disabilities.

(6) Training or technical assistance for professionals (including individuals providing educational rehabilitative services), employers, or other individuals who provide services to, employ, or are otherwise substantially involved in the major life functions of an individual with a disability.

(c) *Attention deficit disorder (ADD)*. As used to define students, encompasses attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder and attention deficit disorder without hyperactivity. The essential features of this disorder are developmentally inappropriate degrees of inattention, impulsiveness, and hyperactivity.

(1) A diagnosis of ADD may be made only after the child is evaluated by appropriate medical personnel, and evaluation procedures set forth in this part (appendix B to this part) are followed.

(2) A diagnosis of ADD, in and of itself, does not mean that a child requires special education; it is possible that a child diagnosed with ADD, as the only finding, can have his or her educational needs met within the regular education setting.

(3) For a child with ADD to be eligible for special education, the Case Study Committee, with assistance from the medical personnel conducting the evaluation, must then make a determination that the ADD is a chronic or acute health problem that results in limited alertness, which adversely affects educational performance. Children with ADD who are eligible for special education and medically related services will qualify for services under

“Other Health Impaired” as described in Criterion A, paragraph (h)(1) of this section.

(d) *Autism*. A developmental disability significantly affecting verbal and non-verbal communication and social interaction generally evident before age 3 that adversely affects educational performance. Characteristics of autism include irregularities and impairments in communication, engagement in repetitive activities and stereotyped movements, resistance to environmental change or change in daily routines, and unusual responses to sensory experiences. The term does not include children with characteristics of the disability of serious emotional disturbance.

(e) *Case Study Committee (CSC)*. A school-based committee that determines a child's eligibility for special education, develops and reviews a child's individualized education program (IEP), and determines appropriate placement in the least restrictive environment. A CSC is uniquely composed for each child. Participants on a CSC must include:

(1) The designated representative of the Section 6 School Arrangement, who is qualified to supervise the provision of special education. Such representative may not be the child's special education teacher.

(2) One, or more, of the child's regular education teachers, if appropriate.

(3) A special education teacher.

(4) One, or both, of the child's parents.

(5) The child, if appropriate.

(6) A member of the evaluation team or another person knowledgeable about the evaluation procedures used with the child.

(7) Other individuals, at the discretion of the parent or the Section 6 School Arrangement, who may have pertinent information.

(f) *Child-find*. The ongoing process used by the Military Services and a Section 6 School Arrangement to seek and identify children (from birth to 21 years of age) who show indications that they might be in need of early intervention services or special education

and related services. Child-find activities include the dissemination of information to the public and identification, screening, and referral procedures.

(g) *Children with disabilities ages 5-21 (inclusive).* Those children ages 5-21 years (inclusive), evaluated in accordance with this part, who are in need of special education as determined by a CSC and who have not been graduated from a high school or who have not completed the requirements for a General Education Diploma. The terms "child" and "student" may also be used to refer to this population. The student must be determined eligible under one of the following four categories:

(1) *Criterion A.* The educational performance of the student is adversely affected, as determined by the CSC, by a physical impairment; visual impairment including blindness; hearing impairment including deafness; orthopedic impairment; or other health impairment, including ADD, when the condition is a chronic or acute health problem that results in limited alertness; autism; and traumatic brain injury requiring environmental and/or academic modifications.

(2) *Criterion B.* A student who manifests a psychoemotional condition that is the primary cause of educational difficulties; a student who exhibits maladaptive behavior to a marked degree and over a long period of time that interferes with skill attainment, classroom functioning or performance, social-emotional condition, and who as a result requires special education. The term does not usually include a student whose difficulties are primarily the result of:

- (i) Intellectual deficit;
- (ii) Sensory or physical impairment;
- (iii) Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder;
- (iv) Antisocial behavior;
- (v) Parent-child or family problems;
- (vi) Disruptive behavior disorders;
- (vii) Adjustment disorders;
- (viii) Interpersonal or life circumstance problems; or
- (ix) Other problems that are not the result of a severe emotional disorder.

(3) *Criterion C.* The educational performance of the student is adversely af-

fected, as determined by the CSC, by a speech and/or language impairment.

(4) *Criterion D.* The measured academic achievement of the student in math, reading, or language is determined by the CSC to be adversely affected by underlying disabilities (including mental retardation and specific learning disability) including either an intellectual deficit or an information processing deficit.

(5) *Criterion E.* A child, 0-5 inclusive, whose functioning level as determined by the CSC, is developmentally delayed and would qualify for special education and related services as determined by this regulation.

(h) *Consent.* This term means that:

(1) The parent of an infant, toddler, child, or preschool child with a disability has been fully informed, in his or her native language, or in another mode of communication, of all information relevant to the activity for which permission is sought.

(2) The parent understands and agrees in writing to the implementation of the activity for which his or her permission is sought. The writing must describe that activity, list the child's records that will be released and to whom, and acknowledge that the parent understands consent is voluntary and may be prospectively revoked at any time.

(3) The parent of an infant, toddler, preschool child or child must consent to the release of records. The request for permission must describe that activity, list each individual's records that will be released and to whom, and acknowledge that the parent understands that consent is voluntary and may be prospectively revoked at any time.

(4) The written consent of a parent of an infant or toddler with a disability is necessary for implementation of early intervention services described in the individualized family service plan (IFSP). If such parent does not provide consent with respect to a particular early intervention service, then the early intervention services for which consent is obtained shall be provided.

(i) *Deaf.* A hearing loss or deficit so severe that the child is impaired in processing linguistic information

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through hearing, with or without amplification, to the extent that his or her educational performance is adversely affected.

(j) *Deaf-blind.* Concomitant hearing and visual impairments, the combination of which causes such severe communication and other developmental and educational problems that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for children with deafness or children with blindness.

(k) *Developmental delay.* A significant discrepancy in the actual functioning of an infant or toddler when compared with the functioning of a nondisabled infant or toddler of the same chronological age in any of the following areas of development: Physical development, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development, and adaptive development as measured using standardized evaluation instruments and confirmed by clinical observation and judgment. A significant discrepancy exists when the one area of development is delayed by 25 percent or 2 standard deviations or more below the mean or when two areas of development are each delayed by 20 percent or 1½ standard deviations or more below the mean. (Chronological age should be corrected for prematurity until 24 months of age.)

(l) *Early intervention service coordination services.* Case management services that include integration and oversight of the scheduling and accomplishment of evaluation and delivery of early intervention services to an infant or toddler with a disability and his or her family.

(m) *Early intervention services.* Developmental services that:

(1) Are provided under the supervision of a military medical department.

(2) Are provided using Military Health Service System and community resources.

(i) Evaluation IFSP development and revision, and service coordination services are provided at no cost to the infant's or toddler's parents.

(ii) Incidental fees (e.g., child care fees) that are normally charged to infants, toddlers, and children without

disabilities or their parents may be charged.

(3) Are designed to meet the developmental needs of an infant or toddler with a disability in any one or more of the following areas: Physical development, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development, or adaptive development.

(4) Meet the standards developed by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (ASD(HA)).

(5) Include the following services: Family training, counseling, and home visits; special instruction; speech pathology and audiology; occupational therapy; physical therapy; psychological services; early intervention program coordination services; medical services only for diagnostic or evaluation purposes; early identification, screening, and assessment services; vision services; and social work services. Also included are assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; health services necessary to enable the infant or toddler to benefit from the above early intervention services; and transportation and related costs that are necessary to enable an infant or toddler and the infant's or toddler's family to receive early intervention services.

(6) Are provided by qualified personnel, including: Special educators; speech and language pathologists and audiologists; occupational therapists; physical therapists; psychologists; social workers; nurses' nutritionists; family therapists; orientation and mobility specialists; and pediatricians and other physicians.

(7) To the maximum extent appropriate, are provided in natural environments, including the home and community settings in which infants and toddlers without disabilities participate.

(8) Are provided in conformity with an IFSP.

(n) *Evaluation.* Procedures used to determine whether an individual (birth through 21 inclusive) has a disability under this part and the nature and extent of the early intervention services and special education and related services that the individual needs. These procedures must be used selectively with an individual and may not include

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basic tests administered to, or used with, all infants, toddlers, preschool children or children in a school, grade, class, program, or other grouping.

(o) *Family training, counseling, and home visits.* Services provided, as appropriate, by social workers, psychologists, and other qualified personnel to assist the family of an infant or toddler eligible for early intervention services in understanding the special needs of the child and enhancing the infant or toddler's development.

(p) *Free appropriate public education.* Special education and related services for children ages 3–21 years (inclusive) that:

(1) Are provided at no cost (except as provided in paragraph (xx)(1) of this section, to parents or child with a disability and are under the general supervision and direction of a Section 6 School Arrangement.

(2) Are provided at an appropriate preschool, elementary, or secondary school.

(3) Are provided in conformity with an Individualized Education Program.

(4) Meet the requirements of this part.

(q) *Frequency and intensity.* The number of days or sessions that a service will be provided, the length of time that the service is provided during each session, whether the service is provided during each session, and whether the service is provided on an individual or group basis.

(r) *Health services.* Services necessary to enable an infant or toddler, to benefit from the other early intervention services under this part during the time that the infant or toddler is receiving the other early intervention services. The term includes:

(1) Such services as clean intermittent catheterization, tracheostomy care, tube feeding, the changing of dressings or osteotomy collection bags, and other health services.

(2) Consultation by physicians with other service providers on the special health care needs of infants and toddlers with disabilities that will need to be addressed in the course of providing other early intervention services.

(3) The term does not include the following:

(i) Services that are surgical in nature or purely medical in nature.

(ii) Devices necessary to control or treat a medical condition.

(iii) Medical or health services that are routinely recommended for all infants or toddlers.

(s) *Hearing impairment.* A hearing loss, whether permanent or fluctuating, that adversely affects an infant's, toddler's, preschool child's, or child's educational performance.

(t) *High probability for developmental delay.* An infant or toddler with a medical condition that places him or her at substantial risk of evidencing a developmental delay before the age of 5 years without the benefit of early intervention services.

(u) *Include; such as.* Not all the possible items are covered, whether like or unlike the ones named.

(v) *Independent evaluation.* An evaluation conducted by a qualified examiner who is not employed by the DoD Section 6 Schools.

(w) *Individualized education program (IEP).* A written statement for a preschool child or child with a disability (ages 3–21 years inclusive) developed and implemented in accordance with this part (appendix B to this part).

(x) *Individualized family service plan (IFSP).* A written statement for an infant or toddler with a disability and his or her family that is based on a multidisciplinary assessment of the unique needs of the infant or toddler and concerns and the priorities of the family, and an identification of the services appropriate to meet such needs, concerns, and priorities.

(y) *Individuals with disabilities.* Infants and toddlers with disabilities, preschool children with disabilities, and children with disabilities, collectively, ages birth to 21 years (inclusive) who are either entitled to enroll in a Section 6 School Arrangement or would, but for their age, be so entitled.

(z) *Infants and toddlers with disabilities.* Individuals from birth to age 2 years (inclusive), who need early intervention services because they:

(1) Are experiencing a developmental delay, as measured by appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures, of 25 percent (or 2 standard deviations below the mean), in one or more areas,

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or 20 percent (or 1½ standard deviations below the mean), in two or more of the following areas of development: Cognitive, physical, communication, social or emotional, or adaptive development.

(2) Are at-risk for a developmental delay; i.e., have a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay; e.g., chromosomal disorders and genetic syndromes.

(aa) *Intercomponent.* Cooperation among the DoD Components and programs so that coordination and integration of services to individuals with disabilities and their families occur.

(bb) *Medically related services.* (1) Medical services (as defined in paragraph (cc) of this section) and those services provided under professional medical supervision that are required by a CSC either to determine a student's eligibility for special education or, if the student is eligible, the special education and related services required by the student under this part in accordance with 32 CFR part 345.

(2) Provision of either direct or indirect services listed on an IEP as necessary for the student to benefit from the educational curriculum. These services may include: Medical; social work; community health nursing; dietary; psychiatric diagnosis; evaluation, and follow up; occupational therapy; physical therapy; audiology; ophthalmology; and psychological testing and therapy.

(cc) *Medical services.* Those evaluative, diagnostic, and supervisory services provided by a licensed and credentialed physician to assist CSCs and to implement IEPs. Medical services include diagnosis, evaluation, and medical supervision of related services that by statute, regulation, or professional tradition are the responsibility of a licensed and credentialed physician.

(dd) *Mental retardation.* Significantly subaverage general intellectual functioning, existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior and manifested during the developmental period, that adversely affects a preschool child's or child's educational performance.

(ee) *Multidisciplinary.* The involvement of two or more disciplines or professions in the provision of integrated and coordinated services, including evaluation and assessment activities, and development of an IFSP or IEP.

(ff) *Native language.* When used with reference to an individual of limited English proficiency, the language normally used by such individuals, or in the case of an infant, toddler, preschool child or child, the language normally used by the parent of the infant, toddler, preschool child or child.

(gg) *Natural environments.* Settings that are natural or normal for the infant or toddler's same age peers who have no disability.

(hh) *Non-section 6 school arrangement or facility.* A public or private school or other institution not operated in accordance with 32 CFR part 345. This term includes Section 6 special contractual arrangements.

(ii) *Nutrition services.* These services include:

(1) Conducting individual assessments in nutritional history and dietary intake; anthropometric, biochemical and clinical variables; feeding skills and feeding problems; and food habits and food preferences.

(2) Developing and monitoring appropriate plans to address the nutritional needs of infants and toddlers eligible for early intervention services.

(3) Making referrals to appropriate community resources to carry out nutrition goals.

(jj) *Orthopedic impairment.* A severe physical impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term includes congenital impairments (such as club foot and absence of some member), impairments caused by disease (such as poliomyelitis and bone tuberculosis), and impairments from other causes such as cerebral palsy, amputations, and fractures or burns causing contracture.

(kk) *Other health impairment.* Having an autistic condition that is manifested by severe communication and other developmental and educational problems; or having limited strength, vitality, or alertness due to chronic or acute health problems that adversely affect a child's educational performance as determined by the CSC, such

as: ADD, heart condition, tuberculosis, rheumatic fever, nephritis, asthma, sickle cell anemia, hemophilia, epilepsy, lead poisoning, leukemia, and diabetes.

(ll) *Parent*. The biological father or mother of a child; a person who, by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, has been declared the father or mother of a child by adoption; the legal guardian of a child; or a person in whose household a child resides, provided that such person stands in loco parentis to that child and contributes at least one-half of the child's support.

(mm) *Personally identifiable information*. Information that includes the name of the infant, toddler, preschool child, child, parent or other family member; the home address of the infant, toddler, preschool child, child, parent or other family member; another personal identifier, such as the infant's, toddler's, preschool child's, child's, parent's or other family member's social security number; or a list of personal characteristics or other information that would make it possible to identify the infant, toddler, preschool child, child, parent, or other family member with reasonable certainty.

(nn) *Preschool children with disabilities*. These are students, ages 3-5 years (inclusive), who need special education services because they:

(1) Are experiencing developmental delays, as measured by appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures in one or more of the following areas: Cognitive development, physical development, communication development, social or emotional development, and adaptive development; and

(2) Who, by reason thereof, need special education and related services.

(oo) *Primary referral source*. The DoD Components, including child care centers, pediatric clinics, and parents that suspect an infant, toddler, preschool child or child has a disability and bring that infant, toddler, preschool child or child to the attention of the Early Intervention Program or school CSC.

(pp) *Public awareness program*. Activities focusing on early identification of infants and toddlers with disabilities, including the preparation and dissemination by the military medical depart-

ment to all primary referral sources of information materials for parents on the availability of early intervention services. Also includes procedures for determining the extent to which primary referral sources within the Department of Defense, especially within DoD medical treatment facilities, and physicians disseminate information on the availability of early intervention services to parents of infants or toddlers with disabilities.

(qq) *Qualified*. With respect to instructional personnel, a person who holds at a minimum a current and applicable teaching certificate from any of the 50 States, Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia, or has met other pertinent requirements in the areas in which he or she is providing special education or related services not of a medical nature to children with disabilities. Providers of early intervention services and medically related services must meet standards established by the ASD(HA).

(rr) *Related services*. This includes transportation, and such developmental, corrective, and other supportive services (including speech pathology and audiology; psychological services; physical and occupational therapy; recreation, including therapeutic recreation and social work services; and medical and counseling services), including rehabilitation counseling (except that such medical services shall be for diagnostic and evaluative purposes only) as may be required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education, and includes the early identification and assessment of disabling conditions in preschool children or children. The following list of related services is not exhaustive and may include other developmental, corrective, or supportive services (such as clean intermittent catheterization), if they are required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education, as determined by a CSC.

(1) *Audiology*. This term includes:

(i) Audiological, diagnostic, and prescriptive services provided by audiologists who have a Certificate of Clinical Competence—Audiology (CCC-A) and pediatric experience. Audiology shall not include speech therapy.

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(ii) Identification of children with hearing loss.

(iii) Determination of the range, nature, and degree of hearing loss, including referral for medical or other professional attention designed to ameliorate or correct that loss.

(iv) Provision of ameliorative and corrective activities, including language and auditory training, speech-reading (lip-reading), hearing evaluation, speech conservation, the recommendation of amplification devices, and other aural rehabilitation services.

(v) Counseling and guidance of children, parents, and service providers regarding hearing loss.

(vi) Determination of the child's need for group and individual amplification, selecting and fitting an appropriate aid, and evaluating the effectiveness of amplification.

(2) *Counseling services.* Services provided by qualified social workers, psychologists, guidance counselors, or other qualified personnel to help a preschool child or child with a disability to benefit from special education.

(3) *Early identification.* The implementation of a formal plan for identifying a disability as early as possible in the individual's life.

(4) *Medical services.* Those evaluative, diagnostic, and supervisory services provided by a licensed and credentialed physician to assist CSCs in determining whether a child has a medically related disability condition that results in the child's need for special education and related services and to implement IEPs. Medical services include diagnosis, evaluation, and medical supervision of related services that, by statute, regulation, or professional tradition, are the responsibility of a licensed and credentialed physician.

(5) *Occupational therapy.* Therapy that provides developmental evaluations and treatment programs using selected tasks to restore, reinforce, or enhance functional performance. It addresses the quality and level of functions in areas such as behavior, motor coordination, spatial orientation; visual motor and sensory integration; and general activities of daily living. This therapy, which is conducted or supervised by a qualified occupational therapist, provides training and guidance in

using special equipment to improve the patient's functioning in skills of daily living, work, and study.

(6) *Parent counseling and training.* Assisting parents in understanding the special needs of their preschool child or child and providing parents with information about child development and special education.

(7) *Physical therapy.* Therapy that provides evaluations and treatment programs using exercise, modalities, and adaptive equipment to restore, reinforce, or enhance motor performance. It focuses on the quality of movement, reflex development, range of motion, muscle strength, gait, and gross motor development, seeking to decrease abnormal movement and posture while facilitating normal movement and equilibrium reactions. The therapy, which is conducted by a qualified physical therapist, provides for measurement and training in the use of adaptive equipment and prosthetic and orthotic appliances. Therapy may be conducted by a qualified physical therapist assistant under the clinical supervision of a qualified physical therapist.

(8) *Psychological services.* Services listed in paragraphs (rr) (8) (i) through (rr) (8) (iv) of this section that are provided by a qualified psychologist:

(i) Administering psychological and educational tests and other assessment procedures.

(ii) Interpreting test and assessment results.

(iii) Obtaining, integrating, and interpreting information about a preschool child's or child's behavior and conditions relating to his or her learning.

(iv) Consulting with other staff members in planning school programs to meet the special needs of preschool children and children, as indicated by psychological tests, interviews, and behavioral evaluations.

(v) Planning and managing a program of psychological services, including psychological counseling for preschool children, children, and parents. For the purpose of these activities, a qualified psychologist is a psychologist licensed in a State of the United States who has a degree in clinical or school

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psychology and additional pediatric training and/or experience.

(9) *Recreation*. This term includes:

- (i) Assessment of leisure activities.
- (ii) Therapeutic recreational activities.
- (iii) Recreational programs in schools and community agencies.
- (iv) Leisure education.

(10) *School health services*. Services provided, pursuant to an IEP, by a qualified school health nurse, or other qualified person, that are required for a preschool child or child with a disability to benefit from special education.

(11) *Social work counseling services in schools*. This term includes:

- (i) Preparing a social and developmental history on a preschool child or child identified as having a disability.
- (ii) Counseling the preschool child or child with a disability and his or her family on a group or individual basis, pursuant to an IEP.
- (iii) Working with problems in a preschool child's or child's living situation (home, school, and community) that adversely affect his or her adjustment in school.
- (iv) Using school and community resources to enable the preschool child or child to receive maximum benefit from his or her educational program.

(12) *Speech pathology*. This term includes:

- (i) Identification of preschool children and children with speech or language disorders.
- (ii) Diagnosis and appraisal of specific speech or language disorders.
- (iii) Referral for medical or other professional attention to correct or ameliorate speech or language disorders.
- (iv) Provision of speech and language services for the correction, amelioration, and prevention of communicative disorders.

(v) Counseling and guidance of preschool children, children, parents, and teachers regarding speech and language disorders.

(13) *Transportation*. This term includes transporting the individual with a disability and, when necessary, an attendant or family member or reimbursing the cost of travel ((e.g., mileage, or travel by taxi, common carrier or other

means) and related costs (e.g., tolls and parking expenses)) when such travel is necessary to enable a preschool child or child to receive special education (including related services) or an infant or toddler and the infant's or toddler's family to receive early intervention services. Transportation services include:

(i) Travel to and from school and between schools, including travel necessary to permit participation in educational and recreational activities and related services.

(ii) Travel from school to a medically related service site and return.

(iii) Travel in and around school buildings.

(iv) Travel to and from early intervention services.

(v) Specialized equipment (including special or adapted buses, lifts, and ramps) if required to provide special transportation for an individual with a disability.

(vi) If necessary, attendants assigned to vehicles transporting an individual with a disability when that individual requires assistance to be safely transported.

(ss) *Section 6 School Arrangement*. The schools (pre-kindergarten through grade 12) operated by the Department of Defense within the CONUS, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Wake Island, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands. Section 6 School Arrangements are operated under DoD Directive 1342.21.⁴

(tt) *Separate facility*. A school or a portion of a school, regardless of whether it is used by the Section 6 School Arrangement, that is only attended by children with disabilities.

(uu) *Serious emotional disturbance*. The term includes:

(1) A condition that has been confirmed by clinical evaluation and diagnosis and that, over a long period of time and to a marked degree, adversely affects educational performance and that exhibits one or more of the following characteristics:

(i) An inability to learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors.

⁴See footnote 1 to § 80.1(c).

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(ii) An inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and teachers.

(iii) Inappropriate types of behavior under normal circumstances.

(iv) A tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems.

(v) A general, pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression.

(2) Schizophrenia, but does not include children who are socially maladjusted, unless it is determined that they are otherwise seriously emotionally disturbed.

(vv) *Service provider*. Any individual who provides services listed in an IEP or an IFSP.

(ww) *Social work services*. This term includes:

(1) Preparing a social or developmental history on an infant, toddler, preschool child or child with a disability.

(2) Counseling with the infant, toddler, preschool child or child and family in a group or individual capacity.

(3) Working with individuals with disabilities (0-21 inclusive) in the home school, and/or community environment to ameliorate those conditions that adversely affect development or educational performance.

(4) Using school and community resources to enable the child to receive maximum benefit from his or her educational program or for the infant, toddler, and family to receive maximum benefit from early intervention services.

(xx) *Special education*. Specially designed instruction, at no cost to the parent, to meet the unique needs of a preschool child or child with a disability, including instruction conducted in the classroom, in the home, in hospitals and institutions, and in other settings, and instruction in physical education. The term includes speech pathology or any other related service, if the service consists of specially designed instruction, at no cost to the parents, to meet the unique needs of a preschool child or child with a disability, and is considered "special education" rather than a "related service." The term also includes vocational education if it consists of specially designed instruction, at no cost to the

parents, to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability.

(1) *At no cost*. With regard to a preschool child or child eligible to attend Section 6 School Arrangements, specially designed instruction and related services are provided without charge, but incidental fees that are normally charged to nondisabled students, or their parents, as a part of the regular educational program may be imposed.

(2) *Physical education*. The development of:

(i) Physical and motor fitness.

(ii) Fundamental motor skills and patterns.

(iii) Skills in aquatics, dance, and individual and group games and sports (including intramural and lifetime sports).

(iv) A program that includes special physical education, adapted physical education, movement education, and motor development.

(3) *Vocational education*. This term means organized educational programs that are directly related to the preparation of individuals for paid or unpaid employment, or for additional preparation for a career requiring other than a baccalaureate or advanced degree.

(yy) *Special instruction*. This term includes:

(1) Designing learning environments and activities that promote the infant's, toddler's, preschool child's or child's acquisition of skills in a variety of developmental areas, including cognitive processes and social interaction.

(2) Planning curriculum, including the planned interaction of personnel, materials, and time and space, that leads to achieving the outcomes in the infant's, toddler's, preschool child's or child's IEP or IFSP.

(3) Providing families with information, skills, and support related to enhancing the skill development of the infant, toddler, or preschool child or child.

(4) Working with the infant, toddler, preschool child, or child to enhance the infant's, toddler's, preschool child's or child's development and cognitive processes.

(zz) *Specific learning disability*. A disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using spoken or written

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language that may manifest itself as an imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell, or do mathematical calculations. The term includes such conditions as perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia, and developmental aphasia. The term does not include preschool children or children who have learning problems that are primarily the result of visual, hearing, or motor disabilities, mental retardation, emotional disturbance, or environmental, cultural, or economic differences.

(aaa) *Speech and language impairments.* A communication disorder, such as stuttering, impaired articulation, voice impairment, or a disorder in the receptive or expressive areas of language that adversely affects a preschool child's or child's educational performance.

(bbb) *Superintendent.* The chief official of a Section 6 School Arrangement responsible for the implementation of this part on his or her installation.

(ccc) *Transition services.* A coordinated set of activities for a toddler that may be required to promote movement from early intervention, preschool, and other educational programs into different programs or educational settings. For a student 14 years of age and older, transition services are designed within an outcome-oriented process, which promotes movement from school to post-school activities, including post-secondary education, vocational training, integrated employment (including supported employment), continuing and adult education, adult services, independent living, or community participation. The coordinated set of activities shall be based upon the individual student's needs, taking into account the student's preferences and interests, and shall include instruction, community experiences, the development of employment and other post-school adult living objectives, and when appropriate, acquisition of daily living skills and functional vocational evaluation.

(ddd) *Traumatic brain injury.* An injury to the brain caused by an external physical force or by an internal occurrence, such as stroke or aneurysm, resulting in total or partial functional

disability or psychosocial maladjustment that adversely affects educational performance. The term includes open or closed head injuries resulting in mild, moderate, or severe impairments in one or more areas, including cognition; language, memory; attention; reasoning; abstract thinking; judgment; problem solving; sensory; perceptual and motor abilities; psychosocial behavior; physical function; and information processing and speech. The term does not include brain injuries that are congenital or degenerative or brain injuries that are induced by birth trauma.

(eee) *Vision services.* Services necessary to ameliorate the effects of sensory impairment resulting from a loss of vision.

(fff) *Visual impairment.* A sensory impairment including blindness that, even with correction, adversely affects a preschool child's or child's educational performance. The term includes both partially seeing and blind preschool children and children.

§ 80.4 Policy.

It is DoD policy that:

(a) All individuals with disabilities ages 3 to 21 years receiving or entitled to receive educational instruction from the Section 6 School Arrangements shall be provided a free, appropriate education under this part in accordance with the IDEA as amended, 20 U.S.C. Chapter 33; Pub. L. 102-119, Section 23; and DoD Directive 1342.21.

(b) All individuals with disabilities ages birth through 2 years (inclusive) and their families are entitled to receive early intervention services under this part, provided that such infants and toddlers would be eligible to enroll in a Section 6 School Arrangement but for their age.

§ 80.5 Responsibilities.

(a) The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)) shall:

(1) Ensure that all infants and toddlers with disabilities (birth through 2 years inclusive) who but for their age would be eligible to attend the Section 6 Arrangement Schools, and their families are provided early intervention services in accordance with IDEA as

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amended, (20 U.S.C., Chapter 33, Subchapter VIII.) and in conformity with the procedures in appendix A to this part.

(2) Ensure that preschool children and children with disabilities ages 3-21 years (inclusive) receiving educational instruction from Section 6 School Arrangements are provided a free appropriate public education and that the educational needs of such preschool children and children with disabilities are met using the procedures established by this part.

(3) Ensure that educational facilities and services provided by Section 6 School Arrangements for preschool children and children with disabilities are comparable to educational facilities and services for non-disabled students.

(4) Maintain records on special education and related services provided to children with disabilities, consistent with 32 CFR part 310.

(5) Ensure the provision of all necessary diagnostic services and special education and related services listed on an IEP (including those supplied by or under the supervision of physicians) to preschool children and children with disabilities who are enrolled in Section 6 School Arrangements. In fulfilling this responsibility, (USD(P&R)), or designee, may use intercomponent arrangements, or act through contracts with private parties, when funds are authorized and appropriated.

(6) Develop and implement a comprehensive system of personnel development, in accordance with 20 U.S.C. 1413-(a)(3), for all professional staff employed by a Section 6 School Arrangement. This system shall include:

(i) Inservice training of general and special educational instructional and support personnel,

(ii) Implementing innovative strategies and activities for the recruitment and retention of medically related service providers,

(iii) Detailed procedures to assure that all personnel necessary to carry out the purposes of this part are appropriately and adequately prepared and trained, and

(iv) Effective procedures for acquiring and disseminating to teachers and administrators of programs for chil-

dren with disabilities significant information derived from educational research, demonstration, and similar projects, and

(v) Adopting, where appropriate, promising practices, materials, and technology.

(7) Provide technical assistance to professionals in Section 6 School Arrangements involved in, or responsible for, the education of preschool children or children with disabilities.

(8) Ensure that child-find activities are coordinated with other relevant components and are conducted to locate and identify every individual with disabilities.

(9) Issue guidance implementing this part.

(10) Undertake evaluation activities to ensure compliance with this part through monitoring, technical assistance, and program evaluation.

(11) Chair the DoD Coordinating Committee on Domestic Early Intervention, Special Education, and Related Services, which shall be composed of representatives of the Secretaries of the Military Departments, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (ASD(HA)), the General Counsel of the Department of Defense (GC, DoD), and the Director, Section 6 Schools.

(12) Through the DoD Coordinating Committee on Domestic Early Intervention, Special Education, and Related Services, monitor the provision of special education and related services and early intervention services furnished under this part, and ensure that related services, special education, and early intervention services are properly coordinated.

(13) Ensure that appropriate personnel are trained to provide mediation services in cases that otherwise might result in due process proceedings under this part.

(14) Ensure that transition services from early intervention services to regular or special education and from special education to the world of work are provided.

(15) Ensure that all DoD programs that provide services to infants and toddlers and their families (e.g., child

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care, medical care, recreation) are involved in a comprehensive intercomponent system for early intervention services.

(16) Ensure, whenever practicable, that planned construction not yet past the 35 percent design phase and new design begun after the date of this part of renovation of school or child care facilities includes consideration of the space required for the provision of medically related services and early intervention services.

(17) Shall establish the Domestic Advisory Panel that shall:

(i) Consist of members appointed by the USD (P&R) or Principal Deputy USD (P&R). Membership shall include at least one representative from each of the following groups:

(A) Individuals with disabilities.

(B) Parents, including minority parents of individuals with disabilities from various age groups.

(C) Section 6 School Arrangements special education teachers.

(D) Section 6 School Arrangements regular education teachers.

(E) Section 6 School Arrangements Superintendent office personnel.

(F) The Office of Director, Section 6 Schools.

(G) The Surgeons General of the Military Departments.

(H) The Family Support Programs of the Military Departments.

(I) Section 6 School Arrangements School Boards.

(J) Early Intervention service providers on installations with Section 6 School Arrangements.

(K) Other appropriate personnel.

(ii) Meet as often as necessary.

(iii) Perform the following duties:

(A) Review information and provide advice to ASD (P&R) regarding improvements in services provided to individuals with disabilities in Section 6 Schools and early intervention programs.

(B) Receive and consider the views of various parent, student, and professional groups, and individuals with disabilities.

(C) When necessary, establish committees for short-term purposes composed of representatives from parent, student, family and other professional

groups, and individuals with disabilities.

(D) Review the findings of fact and decision of each impartial due process hearing conducted pursuant to this part.

(E) Assist in developing and reporting such information and evaluations as may aid Section 6 Schools and the Military Departments in the performance of duties under the part.

(F) Make recommendations, based on program and operational information, for changes in the budget, organization, and general management of the special education program, and in policy and procedure.

(G) Comment publicly on rules or standards regarding the education of individuals with disabilities.

(H) Assist in developing recommendations regarding the transition of toddlers with disabilities to preschool services.

(b) The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs in consultation with the USD(P&R), the GC, DoD, and the Secretaries of the Military Departments, shall:

(1) Establish staffing and personnel standards for personnel who provide early intervention services and medically related services.

(2) Develop and implement a comprehensive system of personnel development in accordance with 20 U.S.C. 1413(a)(3), including the training of professionals, paraprofessionals and primary referral sources, regarding the basic components of early intervention services and medically related services. Such a system may include:

(i) Implementing innovative strategies and activities for the recruitment and retention of early intervention service providers.

(ii) Ensuring that early intervention service providers and medically related service providers are fully and appropriately qualified to provide early intervention services and medically related services, respectively.

(iii) Training personnel to work in the military environment.

(iv) Training personnel to coordinate transition services for infants and toddlers with disabilities from an early intervention program to a preschool program.

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(3) Develop and implement a system for compiling data on the numbers of infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families in need of appropriate early intervention services, the numbers of such infants and toddlers and their families served, the types of services, and other information required to evaluate the implementation of early intervention programs.

(4) Resolve disputes among the DoD Components arising under appendix A of this part.

(c) *Secretaries of the Military Departments* shall:

(1) Provide quality assurance for medically related services in accordance with personnel standards and staffing standards under DoD Directive 6025.13⁵ developed by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (ASD(HA)).

(2) Plan, develop, and implement a comprehensive, coordinated, intercomponent, community-based system of early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities (birth through 2 inclusive) and their families who are living on an installation with a Section 6 School Arrangement, or who but for their age, would be entitled to enroll in a Section 6 School Arrangement, using the procedures established by this part and guidelines from the ASD(HA) on staffing and personnel standards.

(3) Undertake activities to ensure compliance with this part through technical assistance, program evaluation, and monitoring.

(d) The *Director, Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals (DOHA)* shall ensure the provision of impartial due process hearings under appendix C of this part.

§ 80.6 Procedures.

(a) Procedures for the provision of early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families are in appendix A to this part. Provision of early intervention services includes establishing a system of coordinated, comprehensive, multidisciplinary, intercomponent services providing appropriate early intervention services to all eligible infants and

toddlers with disabilities and their families.

(b) Procedures for special educational programs (including related services) for preschool children and children with disabilities (3-21 years inclusive) are in appendix B to this part.

(c) Procedures for adjudicative requirements required by Pub. L. 101-476, as amended, and Pub. L. 102-119 are in appendix C to this part. These procedures establish adjudicative requirements whereby the parents of an infant, toddler, preschool child or child with a disability and the military department concerned or Section 6 School System are afforded an impartial due process hearing on early intervention services or on the identification, evaluation, and educational placement of, and the free appropriate public education provided to, such infant, toddler, preschool child or child, as the case may be.

APPENDIX A TO PART 80—PROCEDURES FOR THE PROVISION OF EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS WITH DISABILITIES, AGES 0-2 YEARS (INCLUSIVE), AND THEIR FAMILIES

A. Requirements For A System of Early Intervention Services

1. A system of coordinated, comprehensive, multidisciplinary, and intercomponent programs providing appropriate early intervention services to all infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families shall include the following minimum components:

a. A timely, comprehensive, multidisciplinary evaluation of the functioning of each infant and toddler with a disability and the priorities and concerns of the infant's or toddler's family to assist in the development of the infant or toddler with a disability.

b. A mechanism to develop, for each infant and toddler with a disability, an IFSP and early intervention services coordination, in accordance with such service plan.

c. A comprehensive child-find system, coordinated with the appropriate Section 6 School Arrangement, including a system for making referrals to service providers that includes timelines and provides for participation by primary referral sources, such as the CDC and the pediatric clinic.

d. A public awareness program including information on early identification of infants and toddlers with disabilities and the availability of resources in the community to address and remediate these disabilities.

⁵ See footnote 1 to § 80.1(c).

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e. A central directory that includes a description of the early intervention services and other relevant resources available in the community.

B. *Each Military Medical Department Shall Develop and Implement a System To Provide for:*

1. The administration and supervision of early intervention programs and services, including the identification and coordination of all available resources.

2. The development of procedures to ensure that services are provided to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families in a timely manner.

3. The execution of agreements with other DoD components necessary for the implementation of this appendix. Such agreements must be coordinated with the ASD(HA) and the GC, DoD, in consultation with the USD(P&R).

4. The collection and reporting of data required by ASD(HA).

5. A multidisciplinary assessment of the unique strengths and needs of the infant or toddler and the identification of services appropriate to meet such needs.

6. A family-directed assessment of the resources, priorities, and concerns of the family and the identification of the supports and services necessary to enhance the family's capacity to meet the developmental needs of its infant or toddler with a disability.

C. *Each Military Medical Department Shall Develop and Implement a Program To Ensure That an IFSP Is Developed for Each Infant or Toddler With a Disability and the Infant's or Toddler's Family According to the Following Procedures:*

1. The IFSP shall be evaluated once a year and the family shall be provided a review of the plan at 6-month intervals (or more often where appropriate), based on the needs of the infant or toddler and family.

2. Each initial meeting and each annual meeting to evaluate the IFSP must include the following participants:

a. The parent or parents of the infant or toddler.

b. Other family members, as requested by a parent, if feasible to do so.

c. An advocate, if his or her participation is requested by a parent.

d. The Early Intervention Program Services Coordinator who has been working with the family since the initial referral of the infant or toddler or who has been designated as responsible for the implementation of the IFSP.

e. A person or persons directly involved in conducting the evaluation and assessments.

f. Persons who will be providing services to the infant, toddler, or family, as appropriate.

g. If a person or persons listed in paragraph C.2 of this section is unable to attend a meeting, arrangements must be made for involvement through other means, including:

(1) Participating in a telephone call.

(2) Having a knowledgeable authorized representative attend the meeting.

(3) Making pertinent records available at the meeting.

3. The IFSP shall be developed within a reasonable time after the assessment. With the parent's consent, early intervention services may start before the completion of such an assessment under an IFSP.

4. The IFSP shall be in writing and contain:

a. A statement of the infant's or toddler's present levels of physical development, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development, and adaptive development, based on acceptable objective criteria.

b. A statement of the family's resources, priorities, and concerns for enhancing the development of the family's infant or toddler with a disability.

c. A statement of the major outcomes expected to be achieved for the infant or toddler and the family, and the criteria, procedures, and timelines used to determine the degree to which progress toward achieving the outcomes is being made and whether modifications or revisions of the outcomes or services are necessary.

d. A statement of the specific early intervention services necessary to meet the unique needs of the infant or toddler and the family, including the frequency, intensity, and the method of delivering services.

e. A statement of the natural environments in which early intervention services shall be provided.

f. The projected dates for initiation of services and the anticipated duration of such services.

g. The name of the Early Intervention Program Service Coordinator.

h. The steps to be taken supporting the transition of the toddler with a disability to preschool services or other services to the extent such services are considered appropriate.

5. The contents of the IFSP shall be fully explained to the parents by the Early Intervention Program Service Coordinator, and informed written consent from such parents shall be obtained before the provision of early intervention services described in such plan. If the parents do not provide such consent with respect to a particular early intervention service, then the early intervention services to which such consent is obtained shall be provided.

D. Procedural Safeguards for the Early Intervention Program

1. The procedural safeguards include:

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- a. The timely administrative resolution of complaints by the parent(s), including hearing procedures (appendix C to this part).
- b. The right to protection of personally identifiable information under 32 CFR part 310.
- c. The right of the parent(s) to determine whether they, their infant or toddler, or other family members will accept or decline any early intervention service without jeopardizing the delivery of other early intervention services to which such consent is obtained.
- d. The opportunity for the parent(s) to examine records on assessment, screening, eligibility determinations, and the development and implementation of the IFSP.
- e. Written prior notice to the parent(s) of the infant or toddler with a disability whenever the Military Department concerned proposes to initiate or change or refuses to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, placement, or the provision of appropriate early intervention services to the infant and toddler with a disability.
- f. Procedures designed to ensure that the notice required in paragraph D.1.e. of this appendix fully informs the parents in the parents' native language, unless it clearly is not feasible to do so.
- g. During the pending of any proceeding under appendix C to this part, unless the Military Department concerned and the parent(s) otherwise agree, the infant or toddler shall continue to receive the early intervention services currently being provided, or, if applying for initial services, shall receive the services not in dispute.

**APPENDIX B TO PART 80—PROCEDURES
FOR SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS (INCLUDING RELATED SERVICES) FOR PRESCHOOL CHILDREN AND CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (3–21 YEARS INCLUSIVE)**

A. Identification and Screening

1. Each Section 6 School Arrangement shall locate, identify, and, with the consent of a parent of each preschool child or child, evaluate all preschool children or children who are receiving or are entitled to receive an education from Section 6 School Arrangements and who may need special education and/or related services.
2. Each Section 6 School Arrangement shall:
 - a. Provide screening, through the review of incoming records and the use of basic skills tests in reading, language arts, and mathematics, to determine whether a preschool child or child may be in need of special education and related services.
 - b. Analyze school health data for those preschool children and children who dem-

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onstrate possible disabling conditions. Such data shall include:

- (1) Results of formal hearing, vision, speech, and language tests.
- (2) Reports from medical practitioners.
- (3) Reports from other appropriate professional health personnel as may be necessary, under this part, to aid in identifying possible disabling conditions.
- c. Analyze other pertinent information, including suspensions, exclusions, other disciplinary actions, and withdrawals, compiled and maintained by Section 6 School Arrangements that may aid in identifying possible disabling conditions.
3. Each Section 6 School Arrangement, in cooperation with cognizant authorities at the installation on which the Section 6 School Arrangement is located, shall conduct ongoing child-find activities that are designed to identify all infants, toddlers, preschool children, and children with possible disabling conditions who reside on the installation or who otherwise either are entitled, or will be entitled, to receive services under this part.
- a. If an element of the Section 6 School Arrangement, a qualified professional authorized to provide related services, a parent, or other individual believes that an infant, toddler, preschool child or child has a possible disabling condition, that individual shall be referred to the appropriate CSC or early intervention coordinator.
- b. A Section 6 School Arrangement CSC shall work in cooperation with the Military Departments in identifying infants, toddlers, preschool children and children with disabilities (birth to 21 years inclusive).

B. Evaluation Procedures

1. Each CSC will provide a full and comprehensive diagnostic evaluation of special educational, and related service needs to any preschool child or child who is receiving, or entitled to receive, educational instruction from a Section 6 School Arrangement, operated by the Department of Defense under Directive 1342.21, and who is referred to a CSC for a possible disability. The evaluation will be conducted before any action is taken on the development of the IEP or placement in a special education program.
2. Assessment materials, evaluation procedures, and tests shall be:
 - a. Racially and culturally nondiscriminatory.
 - b. Administered in the native language or mode of communication of the preschool child or child unless it clearly is not feasible to do so.
 - c. Validated for the specific purpose for which they are used or intended to be used.
 - d. Administered by qualified personnel, such as a special educator, school psychologist, speech therapist, or a reading specialist, in conformity with the instructions

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provided by the producers of the testing device.

e. Administered in a manner so that no single procedure is the sole criterion for determining eligibility and an appropriate educational program for a disabled preschool child or child.

f. Selected to assess specific areas of educational strengths and needs, not merely to provide a single general intelligence quotient.

3. The evaluation shall be conducted by a multidisciplinary team and shall include a teacher or other specialist with knowledge in the areas of the suspected disability.

4. The preschool child or child shall be evaluated in all areas related to the suspected disability. When necessary, the evaluation shall include:

a. The current level of academic functioning, to include general intelligence.

b. Visual and auditory acuity.

c. Social and emotional status, to include social functioning within the educational environment and within the family.

d. Current physical status, including perceptual and motor abilities.

e. Vocational transitional assessment (for children ages 14-21 years (inclusive)).

5. The appropriate CSC shall meet as soon as possible after the preschool child's or child's formal evaluation to determine whether he or she is in need of special education and related services. The preschool child's or child's parents shall be invited to the meeting and afforded the opportunity to participate in such a meeting.

6. The school CSC shall issue a written report that contains:

a. A review of the formal and informal diagnostic evaluation findings of the multidisciplinary team.

b. A summary of information from the parents, the preschool child or child, or other persons having significant previous contact with the preschool child or child.

c. A description of the preschool child's or child's current academic progress, including a statement of his or her learning style.

d. A description of the nature and severity of the preschool child's or child's disability(ies).

7. A preschool child or child with a disability shall receive an individual comprehensive diagnostic evaluation every 3 years, or more frequently if conditions warrant, or if the preschool child's or child's parent, teacher, or related service provider requests an evaluation. The scope and nature of the reevaluation shall be determined individually, based upon the preschool child's or child's performance, behavior, and needs when the reevaluation is conducted, and be used to update or revise the IEP.

C. Individualized Education Program (IEP)

1. Section 6 School Arrangements shall ensure that an IEP is developed and implemented for each preschool child or child with a disability enrolled in a Section 6 School Arrangement or placed on another institution by a Section 6 School Arrangement CSC under this part.

2. Each IEP shall include:

a. A statement of the preschool child's or child's present levels of educational performance.

b. A statement of annual goals, including short-term instructional objectives.

c. A statement of the specific special educational services and related services to be provided to the preschool child or child (including the frequency, number of times per week/month and intensity, amount of times each day) and the extent to which the preschool child or child may be able to participate in regular educational programs.

d. The projected anticipated date for the initiation and the anticipated length of such activities and services.

e. Appropriate objective criteria and evaluation procedures and schedules for determining, on an annual basis, whether educational goals and objectives are being achieved.

f. A statement of the needed transition services for the child beginning no later than age 16 and annually thereafter (and when determined appropriate for the child, beginning at age 14 or younger) including, when appropriate, a statement of DoD Component responsibilities before the child leaves the school setting.

3. Each preschool child or child with a disability shall be provided the opportunity to participate, with adaptations when appropriate, in the regular physical education program available to students without disabilities unless:

a. The preschool child or child with a disability is enrolled full-time in a separate facility; or

b. The preschool child or child with a disability needs specially designed physical education, as prescribed in his or her IEP.

4. If specially designed physical education services are prescribed in the IEP of a preschool child or child with a disability, the Section 6 School Arrangement shall provide such education directly, or shall make arrangements for the services to be provided through a non-Section 6 School Arrangement or another facility.

5. Section 6 School Arrangements shall ensure that a preschool child or child with a disability, enrolled by a CSC in a separate facility, receives appropriate, physical education in compliance with this part.

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6. The IEP for each preschool child or child with a disability shall be developed and reviewed at least annually in meetings that include the following participants:

- a. The designated representative of the Section 6 School Arrangement, who is qualified to supervise the provision of special education. Such representative may not be the preschool child's or child's special education teacher.
- b. One, or more, of the preschool child's or child's regular education teachers, if appropriate.
- c. The preschool child's or child's special education teacher or teachers.
- d. One, or both, of the preschool child's or child's parents.
- e. The child, if appropriate.
- f. For a preschool child or child with a disability who has been evaluated, a member of the evaluation team or another person knowledgeable about the evaluation procedures used with that student and familiar with the results of the evaluation.
- g. Other individuals, at the reasonable discretion of the parent(s) or the school.

7. Section 6 School Arrangements shall:

- 2a. Ensure that an IEP meeting is held, normally within 10 working days, following a determination by the appropriate CSC that the preschool child or child is eligible to receive special education and/or related services.
- b. Address the needs of a preschool child or child with a current IEP who transfers from a school operated by the DoD in accordance with 32 CFR part¹ or from a Section 6 School Arrangement to a Section 6 School Arrangement, by:
 - (1) Implementing the current IEP; or
 - (2) Revising the current IEP with the consent of a parent; or
 - (3) Initiating, with the consent of a parent, an evaluation of the preschool child or child, while continuing to provide appropriate services through a current IEP; or
 - (4) Initiating, with the consent of the parent, an evaluation of the preschool child or child without the provision of the services in the current IEP; or
 - (5) Initiating mediation, and if necessary, due process procedures.
- c. Afford the preschool child's or child's parent(s) the opportunity to participate in every IEP or CSC meeting about their preschool child or child by:
 - (1) Providing the parent(s) adequate written notice of the purpose, time, and place of the meeting.
 - (2) Attempting to schedule the meeting at a mutually agreeable time and place.

¹Copies of DoD Directive 1342.6 may be obtained, at cost, from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161.

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5. Each educational placement for a preschool child or child with a disability shall be:
 - a. Determined at least annually by the appropriate CSC.
 - b. Based on the preschool child or child's IEP.
 - c. Located as close as possible to the residence of the parent who is sponsoring the preschool child or child for attendance in a Section 6 School Arrangement.
 - d. Designed to assign the preschool child or child to the school such student would attend if he or she were not a student with a disability, unless the IEP requires some other arrangement.
 - e. Predicated on the consideration of all factors affecting the preschool child's or child's well-being, including the effects of separation from parent(s).
 - f. To the maximum extent appropriate, designed so that the preschool child or child participates in school activities, including meals and recess periods, with students who do not have a disability.

E. Children With Disabilities Placed in Non-Section 6 School Arrangements

1. Before a Section 6 School Arrangement CSC, with the concurrence of the Section 6 School Arrangement Superintendent concerned, places a preschool child or child with a disability in a non-Section 6 School or facility, the Section 6 School CSC shall conduct a meeting in accordance with this part to initiate the development of an IEP for such student.
2. Preschool children and children with disabilities eligible to receive instruction in Section 6 School Arrangements who are referred to another school or facility by the Section 6 School CSC have all the rights of students with disabilities who are attending the Section 6 School Arrangement.
 - a. If a Section 6 School Arrangement CSC places a preschool child or child with a disability in a non-Section 6 School Arrangement or facility as a means of providing special education and related services, the program of that facility, including nonmedical care, room, and board, as set forth in the student's IEP, must be at no cost to the student or the student's parents.
 - b. A Section 6 School Arrangement CSC may place a preschool child or child with a disability in a non-Section 6 School Arrangement or facility only if required by an IEP. An IEP for a student placed in a non-Section 6 School is not valid until signed by the Section 6 School Arrangement Superintendent, or designee, who must have participated in the IEP meeting. The IEP shall include determinations that:
 - (1) The Section 6 School Arrangement does not currently have, and cannot reasonably create, an educational program appropriate

to meet the needs of the student with a disability.

(2) The non-Section 6 School Arrangement or facility and its educational program conform to this part.

(3) A Section 6 School Arrangement is not responsible for the cost of a non-Section 6 School Arrangement placement when placement is made unilaterally, without the approval of the cognizant CSC and the Superintendent, unless it is directed by a hearing officer under appendix C of this part or a court of competent jurisdiction.

F. Procedural Safeguards

1. Parents shall be given written notice before the Section 6 School Arrangement CSC proposes to initiate or change, or refuses to initiate or change, either the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of a preschool child or child receiving, or entitled to receive, special education and related services from a Section 6 School Arrangement, or the provision of a free appropriate public education by the Section 6 School Arrangement to the child. The notice shall fully inform a parent of the procedural rights conferred by this part and shall be given in the parent's native language, unless it clearly is not feasible to do so.

2. The consent of a parent of a preschool child or child with a disability or suspected of having a disability shall be obtained before any:

a. Initiation of formal evaluation procedures:

- b. Initial special educational placement; or
- c. Change in educational placement.

3. If a parent refuses consent to any formal evaluation or initial placement in a special education program, the Section 6 School Arrangement Superintendent may initiate an impartial due process hearing, as provided in appendix C of this part to show why an evaluation or placement in a special education program should occur without such consent. If the hearing officer sustains the Section 6 School Arrangement CSC position in the impartial due process hearing, the appropriate CSC may evaluate or provide special education and related services to the preschool child or child without the consent of a parent, subject to the parent's due process rights.

4. A parent is entitled to an independent evaluation of his or her preschool child or child at the Section 6 School Arrangement's expense, if the parent disagrees with the findings of an evaluation of the student conducted by the school and the parent successfully challenges the evaluation in an impartial due process hearing.

a. If an independent evaluation is provided at the expense of a Section 6 School Arrangement, it must meet the following criteria:

(1) Conform to the requirements of this part.

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(2) Be conducted, when possible, within the area where the preschool child or child resides.

(3) Meet applicable DoD standards governing persons qualified to conduct an evaluation.

b. If the final decision rendered in an impartial due process hearing sustains the evaluation of the Section 6 School Arrangement CSC, the parent has the right to an independent evaluation, but not at the expense of the Department of Defense or any DoD Component.

5. The parents of a preschool child or child with a disability shall be afforded an opportunity to inspect and review all relevant educational records concerning the identification, evaluation, and educational placement of such student, and the provision of a free appropriate public education to him or her.

6. Upon complaint presented in a written petition, the parent of a preschool child or child with a disability or the Section 6 School System shall have the opportunity for an impartial due process hearing provided by the Department of Defense as prescribed by appendix C of this part.

7. During the pendency of any impartial due process hearing or judicial proceeding on the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of a preschool child or child with a disability receiving an education from a Section 6 School Arrangement or the provision of a free appropriate public education to such a student, unless the Section 6 School Arrangement and a parent of the student agree otherwise, the student shall remain in his or her present educational placement, subject to the disciplinary procedures prescribed in this part.

8. If a preschool child or child with a disability, without a current IEP, who is entitled to receive educational instruction from a Section 6 School Arrangement is applying for initial admission to a Section 6 School Arrangement, that student shall enter that Arrangement on the same basis as a student without a disability.

9. The parent of a preschool child or child with a disability or a Section 6 School Arrangement employee may file a written communication with the Section 6 School Arrangement Superintendent about possible general violations of this part or Pub. L. 101-476, as amended. Such communications will not be treated as complaints under appendix C of this part.

G. Disciplinary Procedures

1. All regular disciplinary rules and procedures applicable to students receiving educational instruction in the Section 6 School Arrangements shall apply to preschool children and children with disabilities who violate school rules and regulations or disrupt

regular classroom activities, subject to the provisions of this section.

2. The appropriate CSC shall determine whether the conduct of a preschool child or child with a disability is the result of that disability before the long-term suspension (10 consecutive or cumulative days during the school year) or the expulsion of that student.

3. If the CSC determines that the conduct of such a preschool child or child with a disability results in whole or part from his or her disability, that student may not be subject to any regular disciplinary rules and procedures; and

a. The student's parent shall be notified in accordance with this part of the right to have an IEP meeting before any change in the student's special education placement. (A termination of the student's education for more than 10 days, either cumulative or consecutive, constitutes a change of placement.)

b. The Section 6 School Arrangement CSC or another authorized school official shall ensure that an IEP meeting is held to determine the appropriate educational placement for the student in consideration of his or her conduct before the tenth cumulative day of the student's suspension or an expulsion.

4. A preschool child or child with a disability shall neither be suspended for more than 10 days nor expelled, and his or her educational placement shall not otherwise be changed for disciplinary reasons, unless in accordance with this section, except that:

a. This section shall be applicable only to preschool children and children determined to have a disability under this part.

b. Nothing contained herein shall prevent the emergency suspension of any preschool child or child with a disability who endangers or reasonable appears to endanger the health, welfare, or safety of himself or herself, or any other student, teacher, or school personnel, provided that:

(1) The appropriate Section 6 School Arrangement CSC shall immediately meet to determine whether the preschool child's or child's conduct results from his or her disability and what change in special education placement is appropriate for that student.

(2) The child's parent(s) shall be notified immediately of the student's suspension and of the time, purpose, and location of the CSC meeting and their right to attend the meeting.

(3) A component is included in the IEP that addresses the behavioral needs of the student.

(4) The suspension of the student is only effective for the duration of the emergency.

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APPENDIX C TO PART 80—HEARING PROCEDURES

A. Purpose

This appendix establishes adjudicative requirements whereby the parents of infants, toddlers, preschool children, and children who are covered by this part and, as the case may be, the cognizant Military Department or Section 6 School System are afforded impartial due process hearings and administrative appeals on the early intervention services or identification, evaluation, and educational placement of, and the free appropriate public education provided to, such children by the Department of Defense, in accordance with Pub. L. 101-476, as amended, 20 U.S.C. sec. 1401 et seq.; Pub. L. 81-874, sec. 6, as amended, 20 U.S.C. sec. 241; Pub. L. 97-35, sec. 505(c), 20 U.S.C. sec. 241 note; and Pub. L. 102-119, sec. 23, 20 U.S.C. sec. 241(a).

B. Administration

1. The Directorate for the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals (DOHA) shall have administrative responsibility for the proceedings authorized by this appendix.

2. This appendix shall be administered to ensure that the findings, judgments, and determinations made are prompt, fair, and impartial.

3. Impartial hearing officers, who shall be DOHA Administrative Judges, shall be appointed by the Director, DOHA, and shall be attorneys who are independent of the Section 6 School System or the Military Department concerned in proceedings conducted under this appendix. A parent shall have the right to be represented in such proceedings, at no cost to the government, by counsel and by persons with special knowledge or training with respect to the problems of individuals with disabilities. DOHA Department Counsel normally shall appear and represent the Section 6 School System in proceedings conducted under this appendix, when such proceedings involve a preschool child or child. When an infant or toddler is involved, the Military Department responsible under this part for delivering early intervention services shall either provide its own counsel or request counsel from DOHA.

C. Mediation

1. Mediation can be initiated by either a parent or, as appropriate, the Military Department concerned or the Section 6 School System to resolve informally a disagreement on the early intervention services for an infant or toddler or the identification, evaluation, educational placement of, or the free appropriate public education provided to, a preschool child or child. The cognizant Military Department, rather than the Section 6 School System, shall participate in mediation involving early intervention services.

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Mediation shall consist of, but not be limited to, an informal discussion of the differences between the parties in an effort to resolve those differences. The parents and the appropriate school or Military Department officials may attend mediation sessions.

2. Mediation must be conducted, attempted, or refused in writing by a parent of the infant, toddler, preschool child or child whose early intervention or special education services (including related services) are at issue before a request for, or initiation of, a hearing authorized by this appendix. Any request by the Section 6 School System or Military Department for a hearing under this appendix shall state how this requirement has been satisfied. No stigma may be attached to the refusal of a parent to mediate or to an unsuccessful attempt to mediate.

D. Practice and Procedure

1. Hearing

a. Should mediation be refused or otherwise fail to resolve the issues on the provision of early intervention services or a free, appropriate public education to a disabled infant, toddler, preschool child or child or the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of such an individual, the parent or either the school principal, on behalf of the Section 6 School System, or the military medical treatment facility commander, on behalf of the Military Department having jurisdiction over the infant or toddler, may request and shall receive a hearing before a hearing officer to resolve the matter. The parents of an infant, toddler, preschool child or child and the Section 6 School System or Military Department concerned shall be the only parties to a hearing conducted under this appendix.

b. The party seeking the hearing shall submit a written request, in the form of a petition, setting forth the facts, issues, and proposed relief, to the Director, DOHA. The petitioner shall deliver a copy of the petition to the opposing party (that is, the parent or the school principal, on behalf of the Section 6 School System, or the military medical treatment facility commander, on behalf of the Military Department), either in person or by first-class mail, postage prepaid. Delivery is complete upon mailing. When the Section 6 School System or Military Department petitions for a hearing, it shall inform the other parties of the deadline for filing an answer under paragraph D.1.c. of this appendix, and shall provide the other parties with a copy of this part.

c. An opposing party shall submit an answer to the petition to the Director, DOHA,

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with a copy to the petitioner, within 15 calendar days of receipt of the petition. The answer shall be as full and complete as possible, addressing the issues, facts, and proposed relief. The submission of the answer is complete upon mailing.

d. Within 10 calendar days after receiving the petition, the Director, DOHA, shall assign a hearing officer, who then shall have jurisdiction over the resulting proceedings. The Director, DOHA, shall forward all pleadings to the hearing officer.

e. The questions for adjudication shall be based on the petition and the answer, provided that a party may amend a pleading if the amendment is filed with the hearing officer and is received by the other parties at least 5 calendar days before the hearing.

f. The Director, DOHA, shall arrange for the time and place of the hearing, and shall provide administrative support. Such arrangements shall be reasonably convenient to the parties.

g. The purpose of a hearing is to establish the relevant facts necessary for the hearing officer to reach a fair and impartial determination of the case. Oral and documentary evidence that is relevant and material may be received. The technical rules of evidence shall be relaxed to permit the development of a full evidentiary record, with the Federal Rules of Evidence (28 U.S.C.) serving as a guide.

h. The hearing officer shall be the presiding officer, with judicial powers to manage the proceeding and conduct the hearing. Those powers shall include the authority to order an independent evaluation of the child at the expense of the Section 6 School System or Military Department concerned and to call and question witnesses.

i. Those normally authorized to attend a hearing shall be the parents of the individual with disabilities, the counsel and personal representative of the parents, the counsel and professional employees of the Section 6 School System or Military Department concerned, the hearing officer, and a person qualified to transcribe or record the proceedings. The hearing officer may permit other persons to attend the hearing, consistent with the privacy interests of the parents and the individual with disabilities, provided the parents have the right to an open hearing upon waiving in writing their privacy rights and those of the individual with disabilities.

j. A verbatim transcription of the hearing shall be made in written or electronic form and shall become a permanent part of the record. A copy of the written transcript or electronic record of the hearing shall be made available to a parent upon request and without cost. The hearing officer may allow corrections to the written transcript or electronic recording for the purpose of conforming it to actual testimony after ade-

quate notice of such changes is given to all parties.

k. The hearing officer's decision of the case shall be based on the record, which shall include the petition, the answer, the written transcript or the electronic recording of the hearing, exhibits admitted into evidence, pleadings or correspondence properly filed and served on all parties, and such other matters as the hearing officer may include in the record, provided that such matter is made available to all parties before the record is closed under paragraph D.1.m. of this appendix.

l. The hearing officer shall make a full and complete record of a case presented for adjudication.

m. The hearing officer shall decide when the record in a case is closed.

n. The hearing officer shall issue findings of fact and render a decision in a case not later than 50 calendar days after being assigned to the case, unless a discovery request under section D.2. of this appendix is pending.

2. Discovery

a. Full and complete discovery shall be available to parties to the proceeding, with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (28 U.S.C.) serving as a guide.

b. If voluntary discovery cannot be accomplished, a party seeking discovery may file a motion to accomplish discovery, provided such motion is founded on the relevance and materiality of the proposed discovery to the issues. An order granting discovery shall be enforceable as is an order compelling testimony or the production of evidence.

c. A copy of the written or electronic transcription of a deposition taken by the Section 6 School System or Military Department concerned shall be made available free of charge to a parent.

3. Witnesses; Production of Evidence

a. All witnesses testifying at the hearing shall be advised that it is a criminal offense knowingly and willfully to make a false statement or representation to a Department or Agency of the United States Government as to any matter within the jurisdiction of the Department or Agency. All witnesses shall be subject to cross-examination by the parties.

b. A party calling a witness shall bear the witness' travel and incidental expenses associated with testifying at the hearing. The Section 6 School System or Military Department concerned shall pay such expenses when a witness is called by the hearing officer.

c. The hearing officer may issue an order compelling the attendance of witnesses or the production of evidence upon the hearing

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officer's own motion or, if good cause be shown, upon motion of a party.

d. When the hearing officer determines that a person has failed to obey an order to testify or to produce evidence, and such failure is in knowing and willful disregard of the order, the hearing officer shall so certify.

e. The party or the hearing officer seeking to compel testimony or the production of evidence may, upon the certification provided for in paragraph D.3.d. of the section, file an appropriate action in a court of competent jurisdiction to compel compliance with the hearing officer's order.

4. Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact and Decision

a. The hearing officer shall make written findings of fact and shall issue a decision setting forth the questions presented, the resolution of those questions, and the rationale for the resolution. The hearing officer shall file the findings of fact and decision with the Director, DOHA, with a copy to the parties.

b. The Director, DOHA, shall forward to the Director, Section 6 Schools or the Military Department concerned and the Domestic Advisory Panel copies, with all personally identifiable information deleted, of the hearing officer's findings of fact and decision or, in cases that are administratively appealed, of the final decision of the DOHA Appeal Board.

c. The hearing officer shall have the authority to impose financial responsibility for early intervention services, educational placements, evaluations, and related services under his or her findings of fact and decision.

d. The findings of fact and decision of the hearing officer shall become final unless a notice of appeal is filed under section F.1. of this appendix. The Section 6 School System or Military Department concerned shall implement a decision as soon as practicable after it becomes final.

E. Determination Without Hearing

1. At the request of a parent of the infant, toddler, preschool child or child when early intervention or special educational (including related) services are at issue, the requirement for a hearing may be waived, and the case may be submitted to the hearing officer on written documents filed by the parties. The hearing officer shall make findings of fact and issue a decision within the period fixed by paragraph D.1.n. of this appendix.

2. The Section 6 School System or Military Department concerned may oppose a request to waive the hearing. In that event, the hearing officer shall rule on the request.

3. Documents submitted to the hearing officer in a case determined without a hearing shall comply with paragraph D.1.g. of this appendix. A party submitting such docu-

ments shall provide copies to all other parties.

F. Appeal

1. A party may appeal the hearing officer's findings of fact and decision by filing a written notice of appeal with the Director, DOHA, within 5 calendar days of receipt of the findings of fact and decision. The notice of appeal must contain the appellant's certification that a copy of the notice of appeal has been provided to all other parties. Filing is complete upon mailing.

2. Within 10 calendar days of the filing the notice of appeal, the appellant shall submit a written statement of issues and arguments to the Director, DOHA, with a copy to the other parties. The other parties shall submit a reply or replies to the Director, DOHA, within 15 calendar days of receiving the statement, and shall deliver a copy of each reply to the appellant. Submission is complete upon mailing.

3. The Director, DOHA, shall refer the matter on appeal to the DOHA Appeal Board. It shall determine the matter, including the making of interlocutory rulings, within 60 calendar days of receiving timely submitted replies under section F.2. of this appendix. The DOHA Appeal Board may require oral argument at a time and place reasonable convenient to the parties.

4. The determination of the DOHA Appeal Board shall be a final administrative decision and shall be in written form. It shall address the issues presented and set forth a rationale for the decision reached. A determination denying the appeal of a parent in whole or in part shall state that the parent has the right under Pub. L. 101-476, as amended, to bring a civil action on the matters in dispute in a district court of the United States without regard to the amount in controversy.

5. No provision of this part or other DoD guidance may be construed as conferring a further right of administrative review. A party must exhaust all administrative remedies afforded by this appendix before seeking judicial review of a determination made under this appendix.

G. Publication and Indexing of Final Decisions

The Director, DOHA, shall ensure that final decisions in cases arising under this Appendix are published and indexed to protect the privacy rights of the parents who are parties in those cases and the children of such parents, in accordance with 32 CFR part 310.