

Special Education State Advisory Committee (SESAC)

PURPOSE

The Maryland Special Education State Advisory Committee (SESAC) was established in accordance with requirements of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

The Mission of the Committee is to advise the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), specifically the Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, in administering, promoting, planning, coordinating and improving the delivery of special education and related services to children with disabilities, kindergarten through 21 years of age.

STRUCTURE

Members of the Committee are appointed by the State Superintendent of Schools, with input from the Committee. MSDE provides staff support to assist in the facilitation of the Committee's work. In addition to federal regulations, the State has adopted regulations to support the Committee. Bylaws have been established to help guide SESAC activities.

General membership meetings are held quarterly to conduct SESAC business. Executive Team meetings occur in between general meetings. **All meetings are open to the public.**

MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Members are appointed to serve a three year term. Members may be re-appointed at the end of their term. Members are expected to attend and participate at general membership meetings and additional activities and events. These activities may include:

- Attending regional or statewide hearings and/or public comment forums;
- Participate in the review and updating of the State's Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR);
- Participate in any federal monitoring visits that occur from time to time; and
- Participate in off-site trainings, designed to educate and inform members on activities that impact the education of students with disabilities

Members are also expected to engage in work assigned by the SESAC in between general meetings. This includes activities in support of subcommittees established by the SESAC.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

To learn more about the SESAC or to access membership information and meeting dates, please visit: <http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/earlyinterv/sesac.html> or contact Clara Coleman, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services at (410) 767-0249.