The Allentown School District provides special education support and services for special needs children.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES**

If your child is found eligible, an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) would be developed that specifically describes the supports and services your child needs. Allentown School District provides the following types of programs and services:

- Learning Support
- Emotional Support
- Life Skills Support
- Deaf or Hearing Impairment Support
- Blind or Visually Impaired Support
- Speech and Language Support
- Physical Support
- Autistic Support
- Multi-handicapped Support
- Early Intervention Support

**SCREENING**

The District offers a screening support service known as the Instruction Support Team (IST) to assist in the identification of students who may be struggling academically, behaviorally, or emotionally. If you feel your child may benefit from the support of the Instructional Support Team, call your child’s principal to request help from the IST. IST is not special education, it is problem-solving process to benefit your child.

**EVALUATION**

If you believe your child may need special education services, a multidisciplinary evaluation (MDE) will be conducted by a multidisciplinary team (MDT). The team is composed of the child’s parent, individuals familiar with child development, individuals knowledgeable of in areas of the suspected disability, individuals trained in appropriate evaluation techniques and, if possible, individuals familiar with the child’s cultural background. All information gathered through the screening and/or re-evaluation process is considered confidential under Section 438 of the General Education Provisions Act. A written request for an evaluation may be made by the parent and provided to your child’s principal.

**PRESCHOOL CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

Parents who have questions regarding their child’s seeing, hearing, learning, talking, moving about, manipulating objects, understanding, showing emotions, getting along with others, playing with toys, taking care of himself/herself should call Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit – Project Connect at 1-800-223-4821 or 610-769-4111. Project Connect and the Allentown School District offer preschool programs for children with special needs. Project Connect can provide information regarding screening, evaluation, programs, therapy, parent involvement, and referral to community agencies at no cost to parents.

**NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS/PRIVATE SCHOOLS**

Duties owed to students with disabilities enrolled in private schools by their parents are limited to child find activities and a genuine offer of a Free Appropriate Program of Education (FAPE) from the school district of residence. Students unilaterally enrolled in private schools by their parents have a right to participate in services; however, no private school child with a disability is entitled to any particular service or to any amount of service. (300.455(2))

Any questions regarding special education supports or services, or child-find activities may be directed to: Mr. Brian Siket, Director of Special Education 484-765-4070.