

**Special Education at Home  
"101"**

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**Oregon State Law for the Home Education of Students  
with Special Needs**



**Procedure in Steps**

- 1) Psychological test
- 2) Diagnostic test
- 3) Team meeting
  - Eligibility established
  - PDP written
  - ESD gets a letter of intent
  - **Teach**

❖ Next year,

- 1) Diagnostic test
- 2) PDP/Team Meeting
- 3) ESD letter--"Satisfactory Educational Progress"
  - **Teach.....**

**~Every 3-5 years start the process again**

**Details!**

Students \_\_\_\_\_ under OAR statues as requiring Special Education Services.

Oregon considers the state responsible to some degree for all students who qualify under these OARs to receive special education services. Most of us provide our own services

and don't actually let them serve us at all, but here is the legal way to do this.

### **Team Approach to Education**

Multidisciplinary team (meaning people who know my student from different points of view—they have been trained in different “disciplines” like a teacher, psychologist, therapist...)

- Who is my team?
- Parents
- Consultant
- Testers
- Therapists/Tutors/Grandparents/Other interested parties who know your child and situation
- (It can be you and I sometimes--two people minimum.)

\_\_\_\_\_ -- every 3 years  
or as needed to continue appropriate services.

(ESD or private source)

The team can determine if you don't need new testing. LD students need more frequent checks than do students with clearly physical disabilities.

\_\_\_\_\_ **--every year**

This is an \_\_\_\_\_.

You really do want this to be done. It dictates the plan for future teaching.

This is a service that I can provide, or you can have it done through the school district.

If your student is nearly up with age mates, the standardized tests work just fine, otherwise an individualized test is needed and much more appropriate. (less frightening, more flexible, test taker friendly...)

## Oregon Eligibility Established

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(Your school district can do this or a private team can, I can be a part of either team.)

This has to happen only one time unless you for some reason “undo things” or find new information that would change the diagnosis.

## Privately Developed Plan (PDP)

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### **(PDP) is written and followed**

I can serve on a team to do this with you.

A PDP is much like an IEP, but is much less complex.

- \_\_\_\_\_,
- You \_\_\_\_\_ and
- You need to work as a team to

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

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Multidisciplinary team meeting to discuss PDP goals.

A private team of professionals does this, I can be a part of your team if you like.

All goal setting decisions are made by a team of people who care about and know about how to help your student. Often as home educators this team is you, any tutors or therapists you may have hired and myself.

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You teach your child and employ needed therapists for specific areas of need.

If you need help, you are responsible to find it.

Speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, specially designed instructional tutoring, medical interventions... are some of the things commonly needed. Public schools can offer some of these services on a limited basis. You can accompany your student when he goes to these sessions in most places if you request this, though they will likely prefer you drop the student and let them work with him/her privately. (Think budget cuts)

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Multidisciplinary team meets and writes a letter to ESD stating that satisfactory progress has been made (assuming that it has.) The letter is kept on file and mailed only if they request a copy. (Or you can send the letter voluntarily. You can send it annually or on test years 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, 8<sup>th</sup> grade and 10<sup>th</sup> grade. ESD will keep either piece of information on file.

*ESD never gets to see test results or the PDP.*

### **Other Helpful Possibilities**

Every 9 weeks I can meet with one or both parents to discuss progress and share ideas for continued success.

This is not a legal requirement by anyone, but is recommended by the Home School Legal Defense Association. I have found this very helpful the first year you home school a newly identified student.

I strongly encourage families I work with to join the Home School Legal Defense Association.



**Now--What do I do?**

You are a parent of a special needs student--What are you going to do today?

\_\_\_\_\_ **your precious darling**

First, realize that as a home schooling parent, this student is

\_\_\_\_\_ and needs special attention, and precisely chosen programs of study.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ *Find support!*

**Day to day...**

Second--find \_\_\_\_\_ that can be ***repeated*** many times without ***your going crazy*** or ***breaking the budget***.

(Use sheet protectors and Vis a Vie markers)

**Ideas**

- Multisensory methods

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Lots of repetition
- Creativity

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Fun!
  - Relax! Enjoy your children!
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### ***Recap for the sequential learner***

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