

1 **Title 5. EDUCATION**

2 **Division 1. California Department of Education**

3 **Chapter 18. California State Schools for the Deaf, Blind**

4 **Subchapter 2. State Special Schools Admission Process**

5 **Article 1. California School for the Deaf**

6 **§ 17660. Definitions.**

7 For the purposes of this article, the following definitions shall apply:

8 (a) "Assessment of suitability for placement" is the period of evaluation and review
9 for purposes of determining whether the California School for the Deaf (CSD) is the
10 appropriate placement for a deaf applicant.

11 (b) "Deaf applicant" is a pupil who seeks admission into the CSD's educational
12 program and whose primary disability is severe hearing loss. A deaf applicant may
13 also demonstrate the ability to use spoken language and may require related speech
14 services.

15 (c) "Enrollment" is the registration of the deaf applicant into CSD's educational
16 program.

17 (d) "Severe hearing loss" is a hearing loss so severe that it adversely affects the
18 pupil's educational performance and ability to access the general education curriculum
19 in a regular education program so that direct instruction using sign language is
20 required.

21 (e) "Temporary assignment" is an applicant's presence at the CSD for purposes of
22 completing an assessment of suitability for placement at the school. A temporary
23 assignment shall not exceed the time limits set forth in Education Code section 56344
24 (a), and does not guarantee admission. For purposes of stay put, a temporary
25 assignment shall not constitute the last agreed upon placement.

26 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 59020, Education Code. Reference: 5 CCR Section
27 3030(a); Section 56342(a), Education Code; 34 CFR Section 300.555.

28
29 **§ 17661. Admission Process for the California School for the Deaf (CSD).**

30 For purposes of determining whether a deaf applicant meets the criteria for
31 enrollment, the following process shall be followed:

32 (a) The school district of residence (local education agency [LEA]) shall refer a deaf
33 applicant to CSD by submitting an application packet to CSD.

1 (b) The completed application packet must be received by CSD within 60 calendar
2 days of the referral. It is the responsibility of the LEA to complete the application packet
3 and to submit it to CSD. Applications not completed within 60 days of the referral shall
4 be returned to the deaf applicant's district of residence (LEA), and shall not be
5 assessed for suitability of placement at CSD.

6 (c) The application packet shall contain the following information, assessments and
7 reports:

8 (1) The last three years of Individualized Education Programs (IEP) or Individual
9 Family Service Plans (IFSP) if completed;

10 (2) Audiograms, completed within one year of the date of the application of
11 admission;

12 (3) The current assessments and/or reports prepared pursuant to Education Code
13 section 56320, et seq. and as required to comply with Education Code section 56381;
14 and

15 (4) Any additional assessments and/or reports dated within two years of the date of
16 the application of admission which document:

17 (A) The impact of the deaf applicant's hearing loss;

18 (B) The deaf applicant's inability to auditorily access the general education
19 curriculum; and

20 (C) Any other disabilities, conditions, or behaviors that may affect the deaf
21 applicant's ability to access the general education curriculum.

22 (d) Once a completed application has been received, CSD shall initiate and
23 complete an assessment of suitability for placement at CSD, in accordance with
24 Education code section 56344. It is the sole responsibility of the deaf applicant's
25 district of residence (LEA) to ensure compliance with Education Code section 56321
26 prior to CSD's commencement of the deaf applicant's assessment for suitability for
27 placement. This assessment plan may include temporary assignment at CSD for
28 purposes of determining eligibility for enrollment in the day or residential program and
29 should include any necessary and appropriate amendments to the IEP to ensure
30 appropriate services during this temporary assignment.

31 (e) Prior to the completion of the assessment of suitability for placement at CSD, the
32 deaf applicant's IEP team, including the appropriate CSD personnel, shall meet to

1 determine the appropriate placement. The IEP team may not make a determination of
2 placement at CSD without the agreement of CSD personnel.

3 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 59020, Education Code. Reference: 5 CCR section
4 3030(a); Section 56342(a), Education Code; 34 CFR Section 300.555.

5
6 **§ 17662. Eligibility for Enrollment in CSD's Day Program.**

7 The California Schools for the Deaf provide intensive, specialized services to
8 students with or without additional disabilities whose primary education needs are due
9 to their deafness. A deaf applicant who meets the following criteria may be eligible for
10 enrollment or continued enrollment in the California School for the Deaf's (CSD)

11 Instructional Program:

12 (a) The deaf applicant demonstrates the ability to learn and/or use American Sign
13 Language as the primary mode of communication to access instruction, including as
14 follows:

15 (1) The deaf applicant attends to communication in the environment;

16 (2) The deaf applicant visually attends to others in the environment;

17 (3) The deaf applicant evidences an understanding or awareness of the intended
18 communication;

19 (4) The deaf applicant initiates or sustains interactions with others; and

20 (5) The deaf applicant has the ability to respond to a majority of instructions in an
21 academic, functional, social, and self-care situation.

22 (b) The deaf applicant demonstrates that his or her primary educational needs are
23 related to a severe hearing loss with or without additional disabilities.

24 (c) The deaf applicant demonstrates that he or she can benefit educationally from
25 an ASL environment.

26 (d) The deaf applicant demonstrates the ability to access the general education or
27 alternative curriculum with reasonable accommodations without requiring a
28 fundamental alteration of the educational program of CSD.

29 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 59020, Education Code. Reference: 5 CCR Section
30 3030(a); Section 56342(a), Education Code; 34 CFR Section 300.555.

1 **§ 17663. Eligibility for Enrollment in CSD’s Residential Program.**

2 Deaf applicants eligible for the CSD’s day program are not automatically enrolled
3 into the residential program. Enrollment into CSD’s residential program is a separate
4 and distinct consideration even for a pupil currently enrolled in CSD’s day program. A
5 deaf applicant who meets the criteria established by section 17662 may also be
6 admitted into CSD’s residential program, if CSD determines:

7 (a) The deaf applicant resides beyond a 60-minute commute each way between
8 home and CSD using transportation the LEA provides for day pupils.

9 (b) The deaf applicant has the ability to respond independently and appropriately to
10 life-threatening situations.

11 (c) The responsible local school district and parent/guardian have approved the
12 deaf applicant’s placement in the residential program.

13 (d) The deaf applicant does not have a history of un-rehabilitated behavior that
14 poses a threat to themselves and/or others, including but not limited to substance
15 abuse, fire-starting, sexually predatory behavior, or assault.

16 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 59020, Education Code. Reference: Section 59020,
17 Education Code.

18
19 **Article 2. California School for the Blind**

20 **§ 17664. Definitions.**

21 (a) An “applicant” includes “blind or visually impaired applicant,” and “deaf-blind
22 applicant” and is a pupil between the age of 3 through 21 whose primary disability is a
23 severe sensory loss which limits their ability to access the general education curriculum
24 and who seeks admission into California School for the Blind’s (CSB) educational
25 program.

26 (b) “Assessment of suitability for placement” is the period of evaluation and review
27 for purposes of determining whether the CSB is the appropriate placement for an
28 applicant.

29 (c) “Enrollment” is the registration of the applicant into CSB’s educational program.

30 (d) “Severe sensory loss” is a loss of vision, or vision and hearing combined, that
31 severely affects the pupil’s ability to access the general education or alternative
32 curriculum and causes difficulty to such an extent that it adversely affects his/her

1 educational performance requiring the services of personnel trained to work with blind,
2 visually impaired or deaf-blind children.

3 (e) "Temporary assignment" is an applicant's presence at the School for purposes
4 of completing an assessment of suitability for placement at the school. Temporary
5 assignment shall not exceed the time limits set forth in Education Code section
6 56344(a), and does not guarantee admission. For purposes of stay put, the temporary
7 assignment shall not constitute the last agreed upon placement.

8 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 59020, Education Code. Reference: 5 CCR section
9 3030(a); Section 56342(a), Education Code; 34 CFR Section 300.555.

10
11 **§ 17665. Admission Process for the California School for the Blind (CSB).**

12 For purposes of determining whether an applicant is qualified for enrollment in CSB,
13 the following process shall be followed:

14 (a) The school district of residence (LEA) shall refer an applicant to CSB by
15 submitting an application packet to CSB.

16 (b) The completed application packet must be received by CSB within 60 calendar
17 days of the referral. It is the responsibility of the LEA to complete the application
18 packet and submit it to CSB. Applications not completed within 60 days of the referral
19 shall be returned to the applicant's district of residence (LEA), and the applicant shall
20 not be assessed for suitability of placement at CSB.

21 (c) The Application shall contain the following information, assessments and
22 reports:

23 (1) The last three years of IEP or IFSP if completed;

24 (2) An Ophthalmologic or optometric assessment completed within one year of the
25 date of the application;

26 (3) The current assessments and/or reports prepared pursuant to Education Code
27 sections 56320, et seq. and 56352, and as required to comply with Education Code
28 section 56381; and

29 (4) Any additional assessments and/or reports dated within two years of the date of
30 the application of admission which document:

31 (A) The impact of the applicant's vision or vision and hearing loss,

32 (B) The applicant's inability to visually or visually and auditorily access the general
33 education curriculum; and

1 (C) Any other disabilities, conditions, or behaviors that may affect the applicant's
2 ability to access the general education curriculum.

3 (d) Once a completed application has been received, CSB shall initiate and
4 complete an assessment of suitability for placement at CSB, in accordance with
5 Education Code section 56344. It is the sole responsibility of the applicant's district of
6 residence (LEA) to ensure compliance with Education Code section 56321 prior to
7 CSB's commencement of the applicant's assessment for suitability for placement. This
8 assessment plan may include temporary assignment at CSB for purposes of
9 determining eligibility for enrollment in the day or residential program and should
10 include any necessary and appropriate amendments to the IEP to ensure appropriate
11 services during this temporary assignment.

12 (e) Prior to the completion of the assessment of suitability for placement at CSB, the
13 applicant's IEP team, including the appropriate CSB personnel, shall meet to determine
14 the appropriate placement. The IEP team may not make a determination of placement
15 at CSB without the agreement of CSB personnel.

16 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 59020, Education Code. Reference: 5 CCR Section
17 3030(a); Section 56342(a), Education Code; 34 CFR Section 300.555.

18
19 **§ 17666. Eligibility for Enrollment in CSB's Day Program.**

20 Applicants may be considered for admission if they can demonstrate they will
21 benefit educationally from the CSB instructional program by showing:

22 (a) Applicant demonstrates that his or her primary educational needs are related to
23 a severe sensory loss such that it affects the pupil's ability to access the general
24 education or alternative curriculum.

25 (b) The ability to attend to non-visual stimuli.

26 (c) The ability to benefit from disability-specific instruction, as demonstrated by the
27 following:

28 (1) potential to learn Braille, potential to use low vision aids;

29 (2) potential to benefit from expanded core curriculum instruction; and

30 (3) potential to benefit from adaptations to the environment.

31 (d) The ability to learn simple mobility patterns and routes around campus, as
32 demonstrated by the following:

33 (1) The potential to use the white cane;

- 1 (2) The potential to orient self in space;
- 2 (3) The potential to learn own body and body parts; and
- 3 (4) The potential to learn concepts of directionality.
- 4 (e) Applicant demonstrates the ability to access the general education or alternative
- 5 curriculum with reasonable accommodations without requiring a fundamental alteration
- 6 of the educational program of CSB.

7 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 59020, Education Code. Reference: Sections 56350
8 and 56352, Education Code.

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10 **§ 17667. Eligibility for Enrollment in CSB’s Residential Program.**

11 Applicants eligible for CSB’s day program are not automatically enrolled into the
12 residential program. Enrollment into CSB’s residential program is a separate and
13 distinct consideration even for a pupil currently enrolled in CSB’s day program. An
14 applicant who meets the criteria established by section 17666 may also be admitted
15 into CSB’s residential program, if CSB determines:

16 (a) The applicant resides beyond a 60-minute commute each way between home
17 and CSB using transportation the LEA provides for day pupils.

18 (b) The applicant has the ability to respond independently and appropriately to life-
19 threatening situations.

20 (c) The responsible local school district and parent/guardian have approved the
21 applicant’s placement in the residential program.

22 (d) The applicant does not have a history of un-rehabilitated behavior that poses a
23 threat to themselves and/or others, including but not limited to substance abuse, fire-
24 starting, sexually predatory behavior or assault.

25 NOTE: Authority cited: Section 59020, Education Code. Reference: Section 59020,
26 Education Code.

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