

# IHBAI Independent Educational Evaluations Policy

FILE: IHBAI

## INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL EVALUATIONS POLICY

A parent of a special education student has the right to obtain an independent educational evaluation at public expense if the parent disagrees with an evaluation obtained by Regional School Unit 1. An "independent educational evaluation" means an evaluation conducted by a qualified examiner, as defined in Maine Special Education Regulations, who is not employed by Regional School Unit 1.

If a parent requests an independent educational evaluation at public expense, the public school may ask for the parent's reason why he or she disagrees with RSU 1's evaluation. However, the explanation by the parent may not be required and RSU 1 may not unreasonably delay either providing one independent educational evaluation at public expense or initiating a due process hearing to defend RSU 1's evaluation. The rate charged for the independent educational evaluation shall be comparable to the cost of such evaluations within the RSU 1 regional area.

Authority: 34 C.F.R. § 300.502 (March 1999); Me. Dep't of Educ. Reg. Ch. 101 §§ 9.19, 12.5 (Nov. 1999)

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