

NOTICE: SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973
SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Section 504 is an Act, which prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving federal financial assistance. The Act defines a person with a disability as anyone who:

- 1) *has a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities (such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working);*
- 2) *has a record of such impairment; or*
- 3) *is regarded as having such an impairment.*

In order to fulfill obligations under Section 504, the Salt Lake City School District has the responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel and students. No discrimination against any person with a disability should knowingly be permitted in any of the programs and practices of the school system.

The school district has responsibilities under Section 504, which includes the obligation to identify, evaluate, and if the student is determined to be eligible under 504, to afford access to appropriate educational services.

Any parent or teacher may contact their school's 504 Liaison to request that a student's needs be reviewed and accommodations considered. The school 504 Liaison will convene a Student Services/504 Committee Meeting at which parents and teachers will present data on the student's disability, the disability's impact on major life activity, and possible accommodations that might be implemented at the school to meet the student's needs. Eligibility for a 504 Plan will be determined. If a student is found eligible, a 504 Plan will be created that identifies the agreed upon accommodations specific to each student that will be put into effect. If the parent or guardian disagrees with the determination made by the professional staff of the school, he/she has the right to initiate an appeal process through the District 504 Coordinator.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) also specifies rights related to educational records. This Act give the parent or guardian the right to: 1) inspect and review his/her child's educational records; 2) make copies of these records; 3) receive a list of all individuals having access to those records; 4) ask for explanation of an item in the records; 5) ask for an amendment to any report on the grounds that it is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the child's rights; and 6) a hearing on the issue if the school refuses to make the amendment.

If there are questions, please feel free to contact the Section 504/ADA Liaison at your neighborhood school or the District Coordinator at the SLCS at (801) 578-8285.