



Total Special Education Systems (TSES) and Charter Schools

What is a TSES?

The TSES is a school district's written plan for providing special education and related services to ensure compliance with special education mandates in federal and state laws. Districts may write their plans individually or as members of a special education cooperative.

How does the TSES apply to charter schools?

Charter schools are public elementary and secondary schools, so they must comply with special education statutes and rules. Most charter schools are independent school districts. All school districts, including charter schools, must submit a TSES plan to the Minnesota Department of Education.

What does a TSES plan consist of?

Minnesota Special Education Rule 3525.1100 lists the areas that must be covered in the plan. The following chart outlines the requirements:

TSES Requirement per MN Rule 3525.1100 Subpart 2	What needs to be in the charter school's TSES plan in order to demonstrate compliance
A. Child study procedures	Written procedures specifying identification and evaluation of students suspected of having a disability
B. Full range of special education services	Continuum of services in place to address educational needs of students who meet eligibility criteria for special education
	<p>Effective policies to facilitate the efficient administration and management of special education including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing parents the opportunity to be involved in all aspects of developing, planning, and implementing special education and related services specific to their child • dispute resolution options when parents are not in agreement with the identification, evaluation, placement or provision of Free, Appropriate Public Education for their student

	Description of operating procedures for working with interagency committees such as the Community Transition Interagency Committee (CTIC)
E. Interagency agreements	Not required at charter schools
F. Policies regarding conditional procedures	Specific procedures for implementation and staff training for using any conditional disciplinary procedures

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TSES plans are monitored by the Minnesota Department of Education for compliance. Parents may ask to see a copy of their school district's TSES manual.