South Dakota State University

ECE 470: Early Childhood Education Inclusion Strategies

Concepts addressed in this course: Legislation and institutional responsibilities relating to exceptional students: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Services Act

Students should refer to:

Specifically, students should review:
I. Section 504
   a. Law that mandates equal opportunities for children with disabilities in preschools & schools that receive federal funds
   b. Nondiscrimination in programs
   c. Disability or handicapped shall not “exclude individuals for participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance”

II. Qualifying Characteristics
   a. Has physical or mental impairments which substantially limits major life activities
   b. Has record of physical or mental impairment which substantially limits major life activities
   c. Is been regarded as having a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits major life activities

III. Major Life Activities Definition - Affected Activities
   a. Self-care
   b. Performing manual tasks
   c. Seeing
   d. Hearing
   e. Speaking
   f. Breathing
   g. Learning
   h. Walking

IV. Section 504 does not include IEP’s like IDEA
V. Section 504 does not include procedural safeguards like IDEA

Helpful websites include:
Wright’s Law: http://www.wrightslaw.com/info/sec504.index.htm
Council for Educators of Students with Disabilities: http://www.504idea.org/504resources.html

Development of this review sheet was made possible by funding from the US Department of Education through South Dakota’s EveryTeacher Teacher Quality Enhancement grant.