

Kansas Administrative Regulations

State Department of Education

Article 40.—Special Education

91-40-41. Private school placement by parents to obtain FAPE.

(a) (1) If the parent of an exceptional child who previously was receiving special education and related services from an agency enrolls the child, without the consent of or referral by the agency, in a private preschool or a private elementary or secondary school because the parent believes the child was not receiving FAPE from the agency, a court or special education due process hearing officer may require the agency to reimburse the parent for the cost of that enrollment only if the court or due process hearing officer makes both of the following findings:

(A) The agency did not make FAPE available to the child in a timely manner before the private school enrollment.

(B) The private school placement made by the parent is appropriate to meet the needs of the child.

(2) A court or due process hearing officer may find that a private school placement by a parent is appropriate for a child although that placement does not meet state standards that apply to special education and related services that are required to be provided by public agencies.

(b) Subject to subsection (c), a court or due process hearing officer may deny or reduce any reimbursement for private school placement by a parent, if the court or due process hearing officer makes any of the following findings:

(1) (A) At the most recent IEP meeting that the parent attended before making the private school placement, the parent did not inform the IEP team that the parent was rejecting the services or placements proposed by the agency to provide FAPE to the child, including a statement of concerns and the intent to enroll the child in a private school at public expense; or

(B) at least 10 business days, including any holidays that occur on a business day, before removal of the child from public school, the parent did not give written notice to the public agency of the information specified in paragraph (1) (A) of this subsection.

(2) Before the parent's removal of the child from public school, the agency notified the parent, in accordance with the requirements of K.S.A. 72-988 and amendments thereto, of its intent to evaluate the child, including a statement of the purpose of the evaluation that was appropriate and reasonable, but the parent did not make the child available for the evaluation.

(3) The actions of the parent in removing the child from public school were unreasonable.

(c) Notwithstanding the notice requirements in subsection (b), a court or due process hearing officer shall not deny or reduce reimbursement of the cost of a private school placement for failure to provide the notice, if the court or due process hearing officer makes any of the following findings:

(1) Compliance with the prior notice requirement would likely have resulted in physical harm to the child.

(2) The agency prevented the parent from providing the required prior notice.

(3) The parent had not been given notice by the agency of the prior notice requirement prescribed in subsection (b).

(d) At the discretion of a court or due process hearing officer, the court or hearing officer may allow a parent full or partial reimbursement of the cost of a private school placement even though the parent failed to provide the notice required in subsection (b), if the court or hearing officer finds either of the following:

(1) The parent is not literate and cannot write in English.

(2) Compliance with the prior notice requirement would likely have resulted in serious emotional harm to the child.

(Authorized by K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 72-963; implementing K.S.A. 2007 Supp. 72-966; effective May 19, 2000; amended March 21, 2008.)