

**JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD POLICY IDFA:
SPEECH LANGUAGE SCREENING**

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the district complies with all requirements of the Mississippi Speech-Language Therapy Scholarship for Students with Speech-Language Impairments provided in Mississippi House Bill 896, Legislative Session 2013.

II. PROCEDURES FOR SCREENING

In accordance with Mississippi House Bill 896, Jackson Public School District will ensure that students will be screened for articulation, language, voice, and fluency disorders before the end of Grade 1.

- If a student fails the screener, the parent or legal guardian will be notified of the results of the screener.
- If a student fails the screener, the school district, in its discretion, may perform a comprehensive speech-language evaluation.

III. SUBSEQUENT EVALUATION

If a parent or legal guardian of a student who fails the speech-language screener exercises the option to have a subsequent evaluation performed, such evaluation shall be administered by a 215 endorsed speech-language pathologist. The subsequent evaluation obtained by the parents shall be considered by the school district for eligibility in the area of speech-language in accordance with the procedure mandated by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) for a placement in a speech-language program within the current school or apply for a Mississippi speech-language therapy scholarship for placement in a speech-language program in a nonpublic special purpose school.

III. PARENTAL RIGHT TO OPT OUT

A parent or legal guardian may provide written notification to the local school district opting out of the mandatory screening provided by the district. The provisions of this section shall not apply to homeschooled students.

**SOURCE: JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
LEGAL REF.: HOUSE BILL 896, LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2013
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