

**Administrative Rules – State Special Schools Rule 0520-04-03**

---

**The Background:**

State Special Schools Administrative Rule 0520-04-03 governs eligibility for admission to the Tennessee School for the Blind (TSB), the Tennessee School for the Deaf (TSD), and West Tennessee School for the Deaf and states that the director of schools for each school may admit students who meet eligibility criteria.

On first reading, the following revisions were proposed:

- Change admittance from permissive to mandatory if the student meets the eligibility criteria.
- Add eligibility requirement that students must also meet the school policy for admissions and enrollment.
- Require the student's district of origin (i.e., district referring the student to TSB or TSD) to sign a placement agreement each year that outlines the responsibilities of the district of origin and TSB/TSD.
- Require admittance to the residential program be based on the school's residential program policy.

A rulemaking hearing was held in December 2020 to collect stakeholder feedback. No comments were submitted regarding this rule.

Changes between first and final reading include minor clerical revisions only.

**The Fiscal Analysis Impact:**

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

**The Recommendation:**

The Department of Education recommends approval of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.