

ATTENDANCE IN BASIC SKILLS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (BSIP)

In each school district in New Jersey, K-12 pupils whose proficiency in communication and computation skills is below statewide standards are required to be reviewed for entry into education programs designed to remediate their deficiencies. These programs offer diagnostic, remedial, and skill maintenance activities designated to promote progress by each pupil to at least the level of statewide standards.

Any child who does not meet minimum proficiency levels on state assessments or scores below the 50th national percentile on a district approved standardized test will be reviewed to receive basic skills instruction. Multiple measures are applied for entry and exit. These multiple measures shall include but are not limited to: performance on statewide assessments, performance on standardized assessments, performance on benchmark assessments, class grades, teacher evaluation, and parent information.

A Basic Skills Improvement Program is defined as one of the following:

1. A "pull out" remedial program of small group or individual instruction taught by a basic skills improvement teacher;
2. A specially scheduled remedial section that usually is smaller in size than a regular class and may utilize specialized materials;
3. Having the basic skills teacher go into the regular classroom and work with basic skills students;
4. A program that gives specialized individualized attention during the regular class session. This requires a written planned program designed to meet the student's deficiencies as shown on the standardized assessments or the equivalent thereof.
5. An individual program developed and monitored by the basic skills teacher that addresses the student's weaknesses and is completed independently by the student.

A parent shall be notified about the student's eligibility for a program and should be given an opportunity to provide input and additional information related to the program. The principal and teacher should then determine which program is appropriate to bring the student up to the acceptable standard.

The district will periodically review the program to define the options available to pupils to develop alternative strategies for the acquisition of skills, and to evaluate the effectiveness of the program for different populations.

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Any student whose performance on state assessments/district assessments falls below the proficiency level for two consecutive years shall be required to participate in a Basic Skills program.

Appeal Procedure:

Parents who are dissatisfied with the principal's or teacher's program placement may appeal the placement to the BSI Program Coordinator who is the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. The decision of the Superintendent of Schools is final.

Approved: February 9, 2004

Revised: March 8, 2010