

Texans Can! Charter Schools

This handbook serves as the Student Handbook for all TEXANS CAN! Schools.

STUDENT HANDBOOK & CODE OF CONDUCT

Board Adopted June 2006

Topics

Admission

Special Education – Referrals/Student Support Team

TEXANS CAN! Inc., is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit corporation created to provide alternative educational opportunities for at-risk students in Texas. The corporation currently operates ten schools: Dallas Can! Academy, which has four campuses, Fort Worth Can! Academy, which has two campuses, Houston Can! Academy, which has two campuses, Austin Can! Academy and San Antonio Can! High School.

The term Texans Can! will be used throughout this document to represent Dallas Can! Academy, Fort Worth Can! Academy, Houston Can! Academy, Austin Can! Academy, San Antonio Can! High School and Texans Can! Academy

Admission

Students who have not graduated from high school are entitled to free public education if they are under the age of twenty-one on the first day of September (of the current school year) and if they provide satisfactory evidence of required immunizations. Students receiving special education services may continue to be enrolled in school until they are no more than 22 years of age on September 1. For students who transfer, the transferring school must send records within ten working days after receiving the records request. If a student has been removed from their home school and placed in an Alternative Education Program, the student must complete the required terms of placement before enrolling at Texans Can!.

Special Education- Referrals/Student Support Team

A student experiencing difficulties in the general education program may be considered for eligibility for Special Education services. All such students will be referred through the district pre-referral committee, the Student Support Team. Adaptations in the general education program are attempted, if appropriate. If these adaptations are unsuccessful and the student is suspected of having a disability, a referral may be made for a Full and Individual Evaluation (FIE). If said adaptations are not appropriate due to the nature and severity of the student's presentation and the student is suspected of having a disability, a referral may be made for a Full and Individual Evaluation (FIE). 34 C.F.R. Part 300; 19 T.A.C. Chapter 89, Texas Education Code (T.E.C.) 29

If a child is experiencing education related difficulties, the parent or adult student must contact the campus administrator, the campus Special Education coordinator, the student's teacher, or the Director of Special Education in writing to express their concern. At any time, a parent or adult student is entitled to request an evaluation for special education services. The student will then be referred to the Student Support Team, the district's overall general education pre-referral committee. This system links students to a variety of support options, including referral for a special education evaluation. Students having difficulty in the regular classroom will be considered for tutorial, compensatory, and other support services that are available to all students.

The Student Support team in conjunction with its relevant members will then determine the appropriate strategy to assure that the student has been offered the opportunity to benefit from various strategies as outlined by law such as tutorial, compensatory, and other support services that are available to all students. If the Student Support Team determines that an evaluation is needed, the parent will be notified, provided a copy of the *Notice of Procedural Safeguards - Rights of Parents of Students with Disabilities and A Guide to the Admission, Review, and Dismissal Process* and asked to provide written consent and support information for the evaluation. The district must complete the evaluation within 60 calendar days of the date the district receives the written consent. In addition, the district will report the results of the evaluation within 30 days of the written report. The district will provide the parent with a copy of the report.

If the parent or adult student has specifically requested an evaluation and the district determines that the evaluation is not needed, the district will provide the parent with a written notice that explains why the child will not be evaluated. This written notice will include a statement that informs the parent of their rights if they disagree with the district. Additionally, the notice will include a copy of the *Notice of Procedural Safeguards - Rights of Parents of Students with Disabilities*.