Safety Risk Factors

WSD shall not admit, readmit, or retain a student who is an adjudicated sex offender and may refuse to admit or retain a student who is an adjudicated level I or level II sex offender. WSD will not admit or retain students who have sexually victimized a student(s) currently enrolled at WSD.

Enrollment of a student at WSD who poses a safety risk to self or others will be denied unless an individualized safety plan can be implemented with existing resources to effectively mitigate the at risk behaviors.

Conditions under which WSD resources would not be able to ensure the safety of the student and others may include but are not limited to:

1. The student has been adjudicated for a violent offense;
2. The student has otherwise been deemed a sexually aggressive youth;
3. The student's needs must be addressed in a hospital setting or a residential treatment facility;
4. The student's primary ongoing needs are related to severe emotional, behavioral, or mental disorders;
5. The student has a documented history of severe behaviors in a prior school, educational or institutional setting; and/or
6. The student requires ongoing one-to-one adult supervision to protect himself/herself and/or others from harm.

When a student is denied, WSD may enter into an inter-agency agreement with the local school district whereby the district may provide the additional resources to support the student's educational placement at WSD and ensure the safety of the student and others. Such agreement may be terminated by either party, at which point the student will return to a district placement.

WSD does not constitute a potential Stay-Put placement for students in Dx placement or attending WSD as a result of an inter-agency agreement.

RCW 13.40

WSD

Admissions Procedures for New & Former Students

Washington School for the Deaf
611 Grand Blvd
Vancouver, WA 98661

WSD is an ASL-English bilingual educational and residential environment. Academic instruction is presented using ASL and written English. Support for spoken English is provided on an individualized basis according to the student's IEP.

PURPOSE: To describe the admission process for the academic program and, if appropriate, residential services of the Washington School for the Deaf (WSD).

The WSD academic program shall be free to residents of Washington State between the ages of three (3) and twenty-one (21) years who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf- blind or have other disabilities where a hearing loss impacts their education and requires specialized educational services. Students reaching their 21st birthday during the academic year may remain for the duration of the school year.

Basis for Referral for Admission:

A parent, guardian, surrogate parent, emancipated minor, adult student or local education agency (LEA) may refer a student for admission to WSD. WSD will assess the appropriateness of enrollment of the student. Applications for admission shall be in writing. Reasons for enrollment may include, but are not limited to, a need for:

1. Services specific to deaf and hard of hearing students that are not readily available in the local school district;
2. More intensive language development within an ASL-English bilingual environment;
3. Greater array of related and support services provided by professionals with expertise in serving deaf and hard of hearing students;
4. Social skills development and opportunities for interaction with peers and adult role models;
5. Transition planning and experiences to support post-secondary outcomes.

Admission to WSD involves a two-step process: a 45 school-day diagnostic (Dx) placement and ongoing enrollment.

Diagnostic (Dx) Admissions Process:

The purpose of the Dx placement is to determine if the student's educational needs may be appropriately addressed at WSD and, when applicable, to determine if a safety plan can successfully mitigate any perceived risk to the student or others.

Parents should allow 3—6 weeks to complete all the necessary steps, which include:

- Tour of WSD
- Completion of application form
- Completion of a social and behavioral inventory by school counselor or administrator
- Admissions Team review of the student's educational and behavioral records and determination regarding any required modifications to the student's IEP for implementation during the Dx period. All modifications will be reviewed and approved by the parent.

Dx placement will not exceed 45 school days.

The LEA is responsible for ensuring the student's IEP and ER are valid through the end of the Dx placement. The LEA remains responsible for the provision of FAPE and continues to report and claim the student for funding purposes throughout the Dx period.

Students who successfully complete Dx placement as day students and who later move outside the transportation boundaries must be re-evaluated to determine if they qualify for residential service.

Ongoing Enrollment Process:

Prior to the conclusion of the Dx placement, the Admissions Team will meet to determine if the student should be enrolled in WSD as the least restrictive environment.

WSD is responsible for providing a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) for all students enrolled at the school. Upon enrollment, one of the following options will occur:

- The student's ER and IEP will be formally reviewed and accepted following OSPI transfer procedures;
- The student's ER will be formally reviewed and accepted following OSPI transfer procedures, and a new IEP will be developed; or
- WSD will initiate a reevaluation and develop a new IEP following OSPI guidelines.

Residential program services may be available to students requesting admission, given:

1. The student is accepted into the WSD academic program; and
2. The residential program has space availability and can provide the needed services; and
3. A one-way commute by school bus is greater than 60 minutes; or
4. Residential programming is otherwise required to provide the student a Free Appropriate Public Education; and
5. The student is able to finger-feed, chew and swallow most foods, indicate the need for help when self-soiled or wet, and assist in self-dressing and bathing.

Basis for Denial of Admission:

Adequate Facilities and Resources

WSD may not accept a student for Dx placement and shall not enroll a student permanently if existing WSD resources cannot provide for the proper care, supervision, education, training, or transportation of the student. If a student is denied admission, WSD may enter into an inter-agency agreement with the local school district whereby the district may provide additional resources to support the student's educational placement at WSD. Such agreement may be terminated by either party, at which point the student will return to a district placement. WSD does not constitute a potential Stay-Put placement for a Dx student.