



**INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES  
 EDUCATION ACT (IDEA)  
 STATE COMPLAINT**

**Information about filing state complaints and the IDEA Special Education Part B Procedural Safeguards Notice are available on the OPI Special Education Dispute Resolution Website: <https://opi.mt.gov/Educators/School-Climate-Student-Wellness/Special-Education/Dispute-Resolution/State-Administrative-Complaint>.**

Use of this form is voluntary. An individual or an organization may file a signed state complaint alleging that a Montana local education or public agency violated the provisions of Part B of the IDEA or Montana implementing special education laws. (See Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 10.16.3661 and 34 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 300.153(a)). Failure to include the required information may prohibit or delay the filing of the complaint. Items marked with an asterisk (\*) are optional.

The rules relating to IDEA state complaint can be found at 34 CFR §§ 300.151-153 and ARM 10.16.3660-3662.

**Date of Complaint** \_\_\_\_\_

This request is being initiated by an:       Individual       Organization

**Complainant(s): Individual/Organization Filing the State Complaint**

Name of Complainant(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact person if different from Complainant: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to student: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_      Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Local Educational Agency (LEA) or Public Agency the Complaint is Against**

Name of the LEA/Public Agency where violation allegedly occurred: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Student (if applicable)**

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (if different from complainant): \_\_\_\_\_  
 (In the case of a homeless student, available contact information)

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

\*School the Student is Currently Attending: \_\_\_\_\_



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**Allegations/Supporting Documentation**

**This complaint must allege a violation that occurred not more than one year prior to the date the complaint is filed. State the alleged violation(s) of federal and/or state special education laws/rules by the LEA or public agency.** Describe the nature of the problem and facts on which each allegation is based. If possible, please include names, dates, and locations as well as the federal and state laws/rules violated, if known. **Please attach additional pages if necessary.**

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**Supporting Documentation (optional)**

Please list any documents you feel would help clarify or verify the above allegation(s); for example, letters from the LEA or public agency, evaluations, IEPs, or notices. You may include any documentation that supports your allegation(s) as an attachment to this form.

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**Proposed Resolution**

To the extent known, explain what you believe needs to happen to resolve these issues. Please attach extra pages if necessary.

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Montana  
**Office of Public Instruction**  
 Elsie Arntzen, State Superintendent  
 opi.mt.gov

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**Early Assistance Program (EAP)**

Before conducting a complete investigation and issuing a decision, the OPI will attempt to informally resolve the dispute with the LEA or public agency through its EAP. If the EAP process is not satisfactory to the Complainant(s), the OPI will investigate and issue a formal decision.

**Signature of Person(s) Filing the Complaint:** \_\_\_\_\_

The party filing an IDEA state complaint must provide a copy to the other party and to the OPI. Please indicate by checking the box that a copy was provided to the other party.

Yes, I provided a copy to the LEA/public agency or the other party.

**Mail this form to:**

**Dispute Resolution Office  
 Superintendent of Office of Public Instruction  
 P.O. Box 202501  
 Helena, MT 59620-2501**

**NOTE:** OPI does not accept faxed or electronically transmitted IDEA State Complaints, as they do not meet the requirements under ARM 10.16.3662.



***The OPI makes reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. If you need an alternative accessible format of notices or final report or have questions about accessibility, please contact the Dispute Resolution Office at (406) 444-2046.***