

Eligibility for SESA Services

1. *Any of Alaska's 54 school districts can submit a SESA referral for service.*
2. *At what student threshold is eligibility for SESA evaluated?*

Based on Alaska Statute, Title 14, Section **14:30:640 (Eligibility for Service)**. SESA services are available to districts whose low incidence special education needs occur infrequently, making it difficult for the district to serve low numbers of students in need of a particular service. SESA engages a district in discussion to reduce SESA services when students served in a common low incidence disability exceed 10 students (e.g. 11 students with autism or 11 students with emotional disabilities).

SESA Internal protocol to analyze and address sites with high numbers of students

1. Identify sites with high numbers of students with a **common** low incidence disability (internal SESA benchmark of >10 students).
2. Identify if students are located in a single site or in multiple locations.
3. Identify if exceptional circumstances need to be considered. E.g., one disability category but a range of skill sets necessary to address student need, e.g., sign language, auditory aural programs, cochlea implants, assistive technology, etc.
4. SESA program lead representative, SESA specialist, and SESA administrator meet to review information gathered.

Converse with district and implement progressive changes in SESA service delivery.

1. Communicate to district, legislative intent of 14:30:640.
2. Reassure district that SESA will follow a process to ensure technical assistance as district goes through the hiring process.
3. Realign service priority with SESA levels of service (**Intensive/Targeted/General**).
4. Move from caseload based services to site based services (consultation with teachers, in-services, topical workshops, etc.).
5. Increased use of distance delivery rather than site visit consultation.
6. Implement reduction in service based on intent of 14:30:640.

REFERENCE

SESA Statute: TITLE 14. SECTION 14:30:640. Eligibility for SESA service.

The services of the Agency shall be available to school districts that serve children *whose special education needs occur infrequently*, who require *specialized services not normally available in the school district*, and who *cannot be easily served by local school district personnel, because of the low number of students in the district in need of the particular service*. The agency may provide services to a child with a disability, as that term is defined in 14:30:350.