

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill in section 3 in §7405-A by striking out all of subsection 1 (page 1, lines 22 to 36 and page 2, lines 1 to 3 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

1. Placement. The school administrative unit in which a deaf or hard-of-hearing student resides is responsible for providing a free, appropriate public education pursuant to chapter 301 for a student placed in the center school or in one of the satellite school programs. An individualized education program team for a school administrative unit in which a deaf or hard-of-hearing student resides is responsible for the placement decision of that student and, when the center school or one of the satellite school programs is being considered as a placement for the student, shall invite a representative of the center school or the satellite school to attend the individualized education program team meeting at which this placement is being considered. The Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is responsible for the sums necessary to ensure that the services required to meet the individualized education program for each student placed in the center school or in one of the satellite school programs are provided, including:

A. The cost of tuition; and

B. The costs of transportation and other related services as defined by section 7001, subsection 4-B, including the following related services:

(1) Speech-language therapy;

(2) Audiology in conjunction with the student's primary audiologist;

(3) Occupational therapy;

(4) Transportation;

(5) Interpreting services;

(6) Extended school year services;

(7) Frequency modulation systems;

(8) Evaluation for the following services:

(a) Occupational therapy;

(b) Speech-language therapy;

(c) American Sign Language;

(d) Psychoeducational assessment for placement; and

(e) Academic achievement; and

(9) Behavioral supports and planning.

Beginning July 1, 2015, the costs of related services not listed in this paragraph are the responsibility of the school administrative unit in which a deaf or hard-of-hearing student resides for those students attending the center school or in one of the satellite school programs operated by the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.

The school board shall pay the room and board costs for each student placed in a residential program in the center school or in one of the satellite school programs through funds appropriated by the State.'

SUMMARY

This amendment clarifies that, beginning July 1, 2015, the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is responsible for the sums necessary to ensure that services required to meet the individualized education program are provided, including tuition, transportation services and other related services as defined by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 7001, subsection 4-B, for each student placed in the center school or in one of the satellite school programs operated by the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf. Beginning July 1, 2015, the school administrative unit in which a deaf or hard-of-hearing student resides is responsible for the costs of providing only those related services as defined by Title 20-A, section 7001, subsection 4-B that are not specified in the list of related services that must be provided by the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for students attending the center school program or one of the satellite school programs beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.