

SEAC Members

SEAC members are appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

If you are interested in being considered as a member of the SEAC, please complete and submit the [SEAC application](#).

The SEAC consists of individuals from across the state in areas of expertise:

- A. Parents of children (birth to twenty-six) eligible for special education services.
- B. Individuals with disabilities.
- C. Educators.
- D. Institutions of higher education that prepare special education and related services personnel.
- E. Superintendents, principals, and officials who carry out activities under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
- F. Local special education administrators.
- G. State agencies which finance or deliver related services.
- H. Representatives of private schools and public charter schools.
- I. Vocational, community, or business organizations concerned with the provision of transition services to students eligible for special education.
- J. State child welfare agency employees responsible for services to children in foster care.
- K. State juvenile and adult corrections agencies.
- L. Cultural linguistic diversity.

A majority of the members of the SEAC shall be individuals with disabilities or parents of students eligible for special education.

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) is supported by the following OSPI staff:

Chris Reykdal
State Superintendent

Jamila Thomas
Chief of Staff

Michaela Miller
Deputy Superintendent

Glenna Gallo
**Assistant Superintendent of
Special Education**

Beverly Mitchell
Executive Assistant

Special Education
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SEAC Belief Statement

We believe that every student in Washington State has the right to reach his or her full human potential. We believe that students will fully and meaningfully participate in their education and community.

We will use our strength as a broad based and diverse constituency group to play an active and influential role in decisions affecting education policies, programs, and services. Our priorities are focused on building a strong public education system that is inclusive, equitable, proactive, and supportive of students, families, and educators.



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SEAC Goals

The Washington State Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) is established in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B and Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 392-172A-07060.

-Purpose-

- A. To advise the Superintendent of Public Instruction and make recommendations on all matters related to special education and specifically advise the Superintendent on unmet needs with in the state regarding the education of students eligible for special education services.
- B. To comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of students eligible for special education services.
- C. To advise Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) in developing evaluations and reporting information that will improve special education programs.
- D. To advise OSPI in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in federal monitoring reports under Part B of the IDEA and review of policy, programs, and operations of the Special Education division.
- E. To advise OSPI in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for students eligible for special education services.
- F. To review state due process findings and decisions.

SEAC Focus

The SEAC members focus on issues impacting special education. The SEAC continues to make recommendations regarding the following priorities for 2018-2019:

1. Special Education Funding.
2. Diversity, equity, and inclusion— institutionalized racism and ableism.
3. Discipline, restraint and isolation, and removal from the classroom.
4. Improving student outcomes and developing a growth mindset:
 - a. Review Graduation requirements and assessments.
 - b. Explore intersection of the High School and Beyond Plan and Transition Plans.
 - c. Understand experiences and outcomes of students with higher incidence disabilities.
 - d. Exploring districts doing innovative work.
 - e. Review Learning Assistance Program (LAP) menus of best practices as they intersect with the SEAC work.
5. Understanding experiences and outcomes for students with disabilities in the juvenile justice system, students experiencing homelessness, poverty, and students in the foster care system.
6. Combined presentation of data from Office of Education Ombuds (OEO), OSPI Special Education parent liaison, Citizen's Complaints, and Due Process decisions to better understand and identify trends in data.

The SEAC members may also be asked to serve on various OSPI state task force committees which involve issues related to special education.

SEAC Responsibilities

Engage students, families, educators, and the public in meaningful conversation to improve services for students eligible for special education services.

- Increase expectations regarding students eligible for special education services.
- Follow-up on public comments.
- Inform legislators regarding policies which affect students eligible for special education services.
- Advise OSPI of statewide implementation of IDEA/WACs.

SEAC Meetings

Three meetings are required throughout a school year. Meetings are held in various geographic areas of the state. Visitors are welcome and public comment is encouraged. Please visit the [SEAC website](#) for upcoming meeting locations and dates or call OSPI for further information: Phone: (360) 725-6075.

Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities

To arrange accommodations for persons with disabilities, please contact the SEAC Executive Assistant at 360-725-6075, TTY (360) 664-3631 or by email, SEAC@k12.wa.us not later than three business days before this event. Please note that the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) does not require OSPI to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.