

performance. That term includes both partially seeing and blind children.

§ 57.4 Policy.

It is DoD policy that:

(a) Eligible infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families shall be entitled to receive early intervention services consistent with Appendix A to this part.

(b) Eligible children with disabilities, ages 3 to 21, inclusive, shall be provided a FAPE in the least restrictive environment, consistent with Appendix B to this part.

(c) Parents of eligible infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities from birth to age 21, inclusive, shall be full participants in early intervention and special education services.

§ 57.5 Responsibilities.

(a) The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness shall:

(1) Establish a NAP consistent with Appendix C to this part.

(2) Establish and chair, or designate a "Chair," of the DoD-CC on Early Intervention, Special Education, and MRS consistent with Appendix D to this part.

(3) Establish and chair, or designate a "Chair," of the DoD Inter-Component Coordinating Council (ICC) on Early Intervention consistent with Appendix E to this part.

(4) Ensure compliance with this part in the provision of early intervention services, special education, and related services through the DoD-CC, in accordance with DoD Instruction 1342.14⁸ and other appropriate guidances.

(5) In consultation with the General Counsel of the Department of Defense (GC, DoD) and the Secretaries of the Military Departments, do the following:

(i) Ensure that eligible infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families are provided early intervention services under 20 U.S.C. 921 *et seq.* and 1400 *et seq.*

(ii) Ensure the coordination of early intervention, special education, and related services.

(iii) Ensure the development of a DoD-wide comprehensive child-find

system to identify eligible infants, toddlers, and children ages birth to age 21, inclusive, under 20 U.S.C 921 *et seq.* and 1400 *et seq.* who may require early intervention or special education services.

(iv) Ensure that DoD personnel are trained to provide the mediation services specified in Appendix F to this part.

(v) Ensure that transition services are available to promote movement from early intervention, preschool, and other educational programs into different educational settings and post-secondary environments.

(vi) Ensure that DoD personnel who provide services (e.g., child care, medical care, and recreation) to infants and toddlers and their families are participants in a comprehensive inter-Component system for early intervention services.

(vii) Assign functions and geographic regions of responsibility to the Military Departments for providing MRS and early intervention services.

(viii) Ensure that the Military Departments deliver the following:

(A) A comprehensive, coordinated and multidisciplinary program of early intervention services for eligible infants and toddlers with disabilities.

(B) MRS for eligible children with disabilities, ages 3 to 21, inclusive.

(ix) Ensure that qualified personnel participate in providing transition services for eligible infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities from birth to age 21, inclusive.

(x) Ensure the development and implementation of a comprehensive system of personnel development for the DoDDS and the Military Departments. That system shall include professionals, paraprofessionals, and primary referral source personnel in the areas of early intervention, special education, and MRS. That system may include the following:

(A) Implementing innovative strategies and activities for the recruitment and retention of providers of early intervention services, special education, and MRS.

(B) Ensuring that personnel requirements are established consistent with recognized certification, licensing, registration, or other comparable requirements for personnel providing early intervention services, special education, or MRS.

(C) Ensuring that training is provided in and across disciplines.

(D) Training providers of early intervention services, special education, and MRS to work overseas.

⁸See footnote 1 to § 57.1(a).