FREE GUIDE

Illinois special education deadlines

Sources last checked between Nov 16, 2026 and Nov 20, 2026
State rules as of November 20, 2026

RULE	FIRST LINE OF THE RULE	SOURCE
EVALUATIONS		
Responding to an evaluation request	Within fourteen school days after receiving an evaluation request, the school must tell you whether it will evaluate your child and request your consent if assessments are needed.	23 Ill. Admin. Code § 226.110(c)(3)
Completing an initial evaluation	In Illinois, the school must finish the evaluation, decide eligibility and hold the IEP meeting within 60 school days after you sign consent.	23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.110(d),(j); 105 ILCS 5/14-8.02(b)
FIRST IEP MEETING		
The initial IEP after eligibility	Illinois follows the federal rule.	23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.110(d),(j)
SCHOOL RECORDS		
Timing of access to education records	In Illinois, when you ask to see and copy your child's public school records, the school must grant your request within a reasonable time.	105 ILCS 10/2, 5(a),(c)-(f); 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.10, 226.75, 226.740; 5 ILCS 70/1.11; 34 CFR 300.613(a)
Copies of records, fees and access barriers	A covered Illinois school may charge the actual cost of copying school student records, up to $0.35 per page.	105 ILCS 10/5(d); 23 Ill. Adm. Code 375.50(a)-(b)
IEP REVIEWS AND REEVALUATIONS		
Regular IDEA reevaluation	Your child must be reevaluated at least once every three years, unless you and the school agree it isn't needed.	34 CFR 300.303(a), (b)
Reviewing the IEP at least annually	In Illinois, your child's IEP must be reviewed at least once every 12 months, and sooner when your child's needs or progress call for it.	23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.220; 34 CFR 300.324(b)
TRANSITION PLANNING		
When transition goals and services begin	In Illinois, transition goals and services begin with the first IEP in effect when your child turns 14½, or earlier if the IEP team decides that's appropriate.	105 ILCS 5/14-8.03(a-5)
RIGHTS AT ADULTHOOD		
Advance notice about the transfer of IDEA rights	In Illinois, by the time your child turns 17, the IEP must say your child was told about any IDEA rights that will transfer at 18.	34 CFR 300.320(c); 105 ILCS 5/14-6.10(a)–(c); 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.690
The state's age of majority and IDEA rights	In Illinois, IDEA rights usually transfer from you to your child at 18.	105 ILCS 5/14-6.10(a),(c); 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.690(a)
PRESCHOOL AND EARLY INTERVENTION		
Preschool special education by age three	Illinois: An eligible child generally needs an IEP or IFSP by the third birthday.	23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.260(a)-(c)
Moving from early intervention to preschool	Illinois: Planning for the move from early intervention to preschool services starts before age 3.	23 Ill. Adm. Code 2070.20, 2070.100; see 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.260(c)
OTHER RULES		
When a manifestation determination must occur	Illinois (same as the federal rule): A manifestation determination review must happen within 10 school days of a decision that changes placement for discipline.	23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.400; 34 CFR 300.530(e)
Section 504 protections in school discipline	Illinois: A student with a 504 plan has discipline protections too.	34 CFR 104.35(a)
Written materials before eligibility or IEP review meetings	In Illinois, you get copies of the written materials the team will consider, and you don't have to ask for them.	105 ILCS 5/14-8.02f(c); 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.75
Access to related-service logs	In Illinois, you can ask to see your child's related-service logs at any time.	105 ILCS 5/14-8.02f(d); 105 ILCS 10/2(f)(1)
The school's response to an IEE request	For Illinois IEE requests under the amendment effective January 1, 2026, the district may initiate a hearing to defend its evaluation within 7 school days of the parent's written request.	105 ILCS 5/14-8.02(b), P.A. 104-368; 5 ILCS 70/6; 23 Ill. Admin. Code 226.75, 226.180; 34 CFR 300.502(b), (e)
An IEP in place for the start of school	Illinois: An IEP must be in place when the school year starts.	34 CFR 300.323(a); 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.10
Give written notice before moving to a private school	In Illinois, if you plan to move your child to a private school and ask the district to pay, give the district written notice at least 10 business days before your child leaves the public school.	23 Ill. Adm. Code § 226.340; 34 C.F.R. § 300.148(c)–(e); § 300.11(b)

RULE	FIRST LINE OF THE RULE	SOURCE
IEP services after a move within the state	During a same-school-year move between Illinois districts with a prior IEP in effect, comparable services continue in parent consultation until adoption of that IEP or development, adoption and implementation of a new one.	23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.50(a)(1)-(2), 226.75, 226.530(a); 105 ILCS 5/2-3.13a(a); 34 CFR 300.323(e),(g); 20 USC 1414(d)(2)(C)
IEP services after a move from another state	For a move into Illinois from another state during the same school year with an IEP that was in effect in the former public agency, the receiving district provides FAPE, including comparable services, in consultation with the parent.	23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.50(a)(2), 226.75, 226.530(a); 105 ILCS 5/2-3.13a(a); 34 CFR 300.323(f),(g); 20 USC 1414(d)(2)(C)

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Full answers and source links: https://endeavy.com/special-education-deadlines/illinois