FREE GUIDE

Missouri 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	In Missouri, the school must give you a Notice of Intent to Evaluate as soon as possible, but within 30 calendar days of the referral for evaluation.	Missouri State Plan for Special Education, Part B, Regulation III, Evaluation Timelines and Parent Request for Evaluation (incorporated by 5 CSR 20-300.110)
Completing an initial evaluation	In Missouri, the school must finish your child's evaluation and decide eligibility within 60 calendar days after your consent.	Missouri State Plan for Special Education, Part B (revised December 2025; incorporated by 5 CSR 20-300.110(2), effective July 30, 2026), Regulation III, Evaluation Timelines, pp. 34–35; specific-learning-disability written-extension section, p. 41; Regulation IV, Transition of Children from Part C to Part B, pp. 60–61; RSMo 1.040
FIRST IEP MEETING		
The initial IEP after eligibility	Missouri follows the federal rule.	Missouri DESE State Plan, Regulation IV, When IEPs Must Be in Effect, p. 53; 34 CFR § 300.323(c)(1)
SCHOOL RECORDS		
Timing of access to education records	You have the right to review your child's education records that the school keeps or uses under IDEA.	34 CFR 99.10(b); 34 CFR 300.613(a)
Copies of records, fees and access barriers	Missouri's State Plan repeats the federal IDEA rule: a fee for parent copies must not prevent the parent from inspecting and reviewing the records.	Missouri State Plan, Regulation II, Confidentiality, Fees (printed p.18); 34 CFR §300.617
IEP REVIEWS AND REEVALUATIONS		
Regular IDEA reevaluation	Missouri follows the federal rule.	Missouri State Plan for Special Education, Part B, Regulation III, Reevaluations, p. 35 (incorporated by 5 CSR 20-300.110)
Reviewing the IEP at least annually	In Missouri, 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.	Missouri State Plan for Special Education, Part B, Regulation IV, Review and Revision of IEPs, p. 56 (incorporated by 5 CSR 20-300.110)
TRANSITION PLANNING		
When transition goals and services begin	In Missouri, your child's IEP must include transition goals and services, starting no later than the first IEP in effect when your child turns 16.	5 CSR 20-300.110(2); Missouri State Plan for Special Education, Part B (effective July 30, 2026), Regulation IV, Postsecondary Transition Services (1)
RIGHTS AT ADULTHOOD		
Advance notice about the transfer of IDEA rights	In Missouri, IDEA rights generally transfer to your child at age 18, or when your child becomes emancipated.	Missouri State Plan for Special Education, Part B, Regulation IV (IEP content: transfer-of-rights statement) and Regulation V, §L (34 C.F.R. § 300.520); federal companion: 34 C.F.R. § 300.320(c)
The state's age of majority and IDEA rights	In Missouri, IDEA rights usually transfer to your child at age 18, or when your child becomes emancipated, unless a court declares your child incompetent.	Missouri State Plan for Special Education, Part B, Regulation V, §L (34 C.F.R. § 300.520)
PRESCHOOL AND EARLY INTERVENTION		
Preschool special education by age three	Missouri: eligible children ordinarily have an IEP in effect by their third birthday.	Missouri Part B State Plan, Regulation IV, A (pp. 43–44) and F (pp. 59–61), July 2026; 34 CFR 300.101(b), 300.102(a)(4)
Moving from early intervention to preschool	Missouri: start the early-intervention-to-preschool transition well before age 3.	Missouri Part C State Plan (rev. May 2023) § XIII, incorporated by 5 CSR 25-100.120; 34 C.F.R. § 303.209(c)(1); see 5 CSR 20-300.110 (Part B Regulation IV.F)
OTHER RULES		

RULE	FIRST LINE OF THE RULE	SOURCE
When a manifestation determination must occur	Missouri (same as the federal rule): A manifestation determination review must happen within 10 school days of a decision that changes placement for discipline.	Missouri State Plan for Special Education, Regulation V: Procedural Safeguards in Discipline for Students with Disabilities, Manifestation Determination, printed p. 91
Section 504 protections in school discipline	Missouri: Federal Section 504 rules require an evaluation before a significant change in placement.	34 CFR 104.35(a)–(d), 104.36; Missouri DESE Section 504 information
An IEP in place for the start of school	Missouri: An IEP must be in place when the school year starts.	Missouri State Plan for Special Education, Part B, Regulation IV, When IEPs Must Be in Effect (34 CFR 300.323), printed p. 53
Give written notice before moving to a private school	In Missouri, 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.	Missouri State Plan for Special Education, Part B, Regulation XIII(A), pp. 126–127 (effective July 30, 2026); 34 C.F.R. § 300.148(c)–(e)
IEP services after a move within the state	For a same-school-year move within Missouri with an IEP that was in effect in Missouri, the receiving agency must provide FAPE without delay.	Missouri State Plan for Special Education, Regulation IV.C, In-State Transfers (revised December 2025)

Planning aid only. Not legal advice. Confirm the date with the governing source.

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