FREE GUIDE

Tennessee 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		
Completing an initial evaluation	In Tennessee, the school must finish the initial evaluation and decide eligibility within 60 calendar days after it receives your consent.	Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0520-01-09-.05(1)(f); 0520-01-09-.01 (adopting 34 C.F.R. Part 300, including § 300.323(c)(1))
FIRST IEP MEETING		
The initial IEP after eligibility	Once the team decides your child needs special education and related services, a meeting to write your child's first IEP must be held within 30 calendar days.	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	If the school prepares a draft IEP, you must receive a copy at least forty-eight hours before the meeting unless you decline that right in writing more than forty-eight hours before the meeting.	Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0520-01-09-.15(2)
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	Your child's IEP team must review the IEP periodically, and at least once a year, to see whether the annual goals are being met.	34 CFR 300.324(b)(1)(i)
TRANSITION PLANNING		
When transition goals and services begin	In Tennessee, the first IEP in effect when your child turns 14 generally includes several transition parts.	Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0520-01-09-.12(2)(b)-(c)
RIGHTS AT ADULTHOOD		
Advance notice about the transfer of IDEA rights	The age of majority is when your child becomes a legal adult under state law.	34 CFR 300.320(c); 300.520(a)–(b)
The state's age of majority and IDEA rights	In Tennessee, special education rights under IDEA transfer from you to your child at age 18.	Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0520-01-09-.21
PRESCHOOL AND EARLY INTERVENTION		
Preschool special education by age three	For a child moving from early intervention (Part C) to preschool special education, an IEP, or an IFSP where that is allowed, must be developed and in place by the third birthday.	34 CFR 300.124(b); 300.101(b); 300.102(a)(1), (4)
Moving from early intervention to preschool	For a toddler in early intervention who may be eligible for preschool special education, the early intervention program, with your family's approval, holds a transition conference with you and the school district at least 90 days before your child's third birthday.	34 CFR 303.209(c)(1); 303.209(b)–(f)
OTHER RULES		
When a manifestation determination must occur	You must receive at least twenty-four hours' notice before the review of whether the behavior was related to your child's disability, and the review must occur within ten school days of the disciplinary change-of-placement decision.	Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0520-01-09-.01, .15(3)
Give written notice before moving to a private school	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.	34 CFR 300.148(d)–(e); 300.11(b)

Planning aid only. Not legal advice. Confirm the date with the governing source.
Full answers and source links: https://endeavy.com/special-education-deadlines/tennessee