FREE GUIDE

Wisconsin 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 fifteen business days after receiving your child's referral, the school must review existing information and request consent for more assessments or tell you none are needed.	Wis. Stat. § 115.777(3)(e)
Completing an initial evaluation	In Wisconsin, the school must decide eligibility within 60 days.	Wis. Stat. §§ 115.78(3)(a)-(b), 115.777(3)(e), 115.782(4)(c); 990.001(4)(a),(b),(d)
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	You are entitled to copies of your child's school records on request, and fees cannot prevent your access or include charges for searching or retrieving records.	Wis. Stat. § 118.125(2)(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	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 Wisconsin, the first IEP in effect when your child is 14 must include goals for life after high school (measurable postsecondary goals).	Wis. Stat. § 115.787(2)(g)1.–2., printed p. 37
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 Wisconsin, IDEA rights usually transfer from you to your child at 18, unless a Wisconsin court has found your child incompetent.	Wisconsin Statutes §115.807(1)–(4)
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	While an expulsion hearing is pending, a suspension may extend to fifteen school days in a row only after the IEP team finds the misconduct was not related to your child's disability.	Wis. Stat. § 120.13(1)(b)
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)
IEP services after a move within the state	For a move between Wisconsin LEAs, the receiving LEA adopts the sending IEP or develops a new one.	Wis. Admin. Code PI 11.07(2)(a), (c)–(d); 34 C.F.R. § 300.323(e)
IEP services after a move from another state	For a move into Wisconsin from another state, the receiving LEA may adopt the previous evaluation and eligibility decision or conduct a new one.	Wis. Admin. Code PI 11.07(3)(a), (c)–(d); 34 C.F.R. § 300.323(f)

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