



Volunteer to be a Special Education Surrogate Parent

Alief ISD is looking for volunteers to be a surrogate parent to students receiving special education services that are living in residential facilities.

Volunteers would receive training either face-to-face or through online training modules.

What is a Surrogate Parent?

Federal and state laws and regulations give parent of children with disabilities the right to actively help shape and monitor their children's special education services and supports.

When students do not have their own parents or legal guardian to represent them, school districts must appoint a surrogate parent to represent them.

Who can be a Surrogate Parent?

An individual who has no conflict of interest and has completed the Surrogate Parent Training .

Who needs a Surrogate Parent?

Any student with disabilities

- Who is a ward of the state,
- Whose parents are unknown or unavailable, or
- Who has been determined by the school district to be in need of a surrogate parent.

What are the roles of a Surrogate Parent?

- represents the child's special education interests in the same manner as a natural parent.
- understands the child's disability and unique educational needs.
- provides permission for certain special education procedures.
- reviews the child's assessment/evaluation data educational placement.
- takes part in school meetings in which the student's individualized educational plan is developed, reviewed, and modified.
- involved in the child's ongoing educational process.