

# Galena City School District - Child Find Notice

The Galena City School District (GCSD) is required by federal and state law (34 CFR 300.220, 34 CFR 300.121) to conduct an annual "Child Find" effort to identify, locate, and evaluate children with suspected disabilities who may need special education services. This applies to:

## *Children Ages 3-21 Residing in Galena*

GCSD identifies all children ages 3-21 within district boundaries who may need special education, including those attending public or private schools, homeschooled, migrant, or homeless.

## *Children Ages 5-21 Enrolled in IDEA*

GCSD is responsible for students enrolled in the Interior Distance Education of Alaska (IDEA) program, fully enrolled students through age 21, who live outside of Galena and are homeschooled. Pre-K students under age five should contact their local district for services.

## What Is Child Find?

Child Find is a federally mandated program requiring school districts to identify, locate, and evaluate all children with disabilities who may need special education services. This includes children attending any school, homeschooled, advancing from grade to grade, or experiencing developmental delays.

## Who Should Be Referred?

Children with suspected disabilities in areas such as speech/language impairments, intellectual disabilities, emotional/behavioral difficulties, autism, hearing/vision impairments, specific learning disabilities, or other health impairments should be referred.

## Available Services

GCSD provides free and appropriate public education (FAPE) through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), offering specialized instruction, speech therapy, occupational therapy, and more to support educational progress.

## How to Make a Referral

If you know a child who may need special education services, contact:

Jessie Towarak, GCSD Child Find Coordinator

Phone: 907-622-0307 extension 107

Email: [spedrecords@ideafamilies.org](mailto:spedrecords@ideafamilies.org)

## Confidentiality

GCSD maintains the confidentiality of student information. Before disclosing identifiable information to others, written consent is required, and data is protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

*Updated October 2024*