**24:05:25:11.  Observation for specific learning disabilities.** The school district shall ensure that the child is observed in the child's learning environment, including the regular classroom setting, to document the child's academic performance and behavior in the areas of difficulty.

The group described in this section, in determining whether a child has a specific learning disability, shall:

(1)  Use information from an observation in routine classroom instruction and monitoring of the child's performance that was done before the child was referred for an evaluation, as in a response to intervention model; or

(2)  Have at least one member of the group conduct an observation of the child's academic performance in the regular classroom after the child has been referred for an evaluation and parental consent, consistent with this chapter, is obtained, as in a discrepancy model.

If a child is less than school age or out of school, a group member must observe the child in an environment appropriate for a child of that age.

**Source:** 16 SDR 41, effective September 7, 1989; 23 SDR 31, effective September 8, 1996; 33 SDR 236, effective July 5, 2007.

**General Authority:** SDCL 13-37-1.1.

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 13-37-1.1.