

Student Development Framework

An Independent Living Program for Residential Students at the New Mexico School for the Deaf

Overview

The first three weeks after a child enters a cottage program, he/she will be observed for specific, age appropriate, independent living skills. The results of this observation will be recorded on the S.D.F. Initial Observation Report. Student's strengths and weaknesses will be recorded and sent to parents along with goals for their child for the year.

Throughout each nine-week period, progress will be recorded and status updates will be forwarded to parents and to the principal for information sharing with teachers.

General Goals:

Students will be observed and guided to independence in the following areas:

- ❖ **Human Development**
Students will develop skills in self-care, cleanliness, general and personal household management.
- ❖ **Life Planning**
 - ✓ Students will develop skills in general and personal household management and goal setting.
- ❖ **Time Management**
 - ✓ Students will learn ways to make productive use of after-school study and leisure time.
- ❖ **Cultural/Social Skills**
 - ✓ Students will learn to establish appropriate interpersonal relationships and awareness/respect of cultures.
- ❖ **Physical/Emotional Fitness**
 - ✓ Students will develop understanding of the importance of good health, exercise and nutrition.
- ❖ **Intellectual/Study Skills**
 - ✓ Students will develop good study skills and will be given opportunities to practice problem solving and critical thinking skills.
- ❖ **Political**
 - ✓ Students will develop world knowledge and leadership skills.

Cottage Life Mission Statement

The Student Life Department is committed to the development of the whole child by providing an accessible, nurturing and student-centered environment in which our child/youth participate as engaged members.