

**273.5 Special education.**

There shall be established a division of special education of the area education agency which shall provide for special education programs and services to the local school districts. The division of special education shall be headed by a director of special education who meets certification standards of the department of education. The director of special education shall have the responsibility for implementation of state regulations and guidelines relating to special education programs and services. The director of special education shall have the following powers and duties:

1. Properly identify children requiring special education.
2. Insure that each child requiring special education in the area receives an appropriate special education program or service.
3. Assign appropriate weights for each child requiring special education programs or services as provided in [section 256B.9](#).
4. Supervise special education support personnel.
5. Provide each school district within the area served and the department of education with a special education weighted enrollment count, including the additional enrollment because of special education for December 1 of each year.
6. Submit to the department of education special education instructional and support program plans and applications, subject to criteria listed in [chapter 256B](#) and [this chapter](#), for approval by February 15 of each year for the school year commencing the following July 1.
7. Coordinate the special education program within the area served.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §273.5]

[89 Acts, ch 135, §59](#)

Referred to in [§256B.9](#), [§256B.11](#), [§273.2](#), [§273.3](#), [§273.9](#), [§273.23](#), [§280.15](#)