

## **160-4-7.04 EVALUATIONS AND REEVALUATIONS**

### **SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

The changes to this rule are in 1(b)(1)(i) to (iii) discussing the time frame for completing evaluations. This change puts into rule guidance about the weekends before and after any occasion when school is not in session for five or more consecutive days. The change allows the weekends as well as the five or more days to be excluded from the calculation of 60 calendar days to complete evaluations.

In addition, the rule regarding the timelines for the summer [1(b)(1)(ii) when school is not in session for extended periods is being changed. This change allows that during the summer when staff are not on contract, to be excluded from the 60 day time period as long as the consent to evaluate was received less than 30 days prior to the day teachers are no longer on contract. Previously the time period for the summer was 90 days. The problem with requiring the eligibility decision during the summer is that teachers are difficult to include in the determination and there is no classroom for natural observations or retrieving work samples. If the consent is received more 30 or more days prior to the end of the school year, there should be time to complete the observations and collect work samples.

These changes allow schools to reasonably complete evaluations in a timely manner and do not extensively prolong the evaluation period.

Systems are still required to complete any evaluation and eligibility for a child turning three during the summer period.

An additional change has been made in 6(c)2 to make the language consistent between the rule on eligibility to reduce confusion.