

(i) Is an employee of the State Board or of any county board; or

(ii) Has an interest that would conflict with his objectivity in the hearing.

(c) (1) The State hearing board may:

(i) After review of the educational records of the child, dismiss any request for review which does not relate to a matter described in subsection (b)(1) of this section;

(ii) Hear any testimony that it considers relevant;

(iii) Require a complete and independent diagnosis, evaluation, and prescription of educational programs by qualified persons, the cost of which shall be paid by the State Board; and

(iv) Subject to § 8-409 of this subtitle, confirm, modify, or reject any diagnosis, evaluation, educational program, or exclusion or exemption of the child from school privileges and require alternate special educational programs for the child.

(2) The hearing board shall make its decision within the time prescribed by the bylaws of the State Board of Education and applicable federal law or regulations.

(3) Each board member is entitled to a reasonable fee and expenses as established by the State Board.

(d) In accordance with the bylaws of the State Board and applicable federal law or regulations, the time limits imposed by subsections (a) and (c) of this section for a decision on a request for review shall be extended or waived on written request to the reviewing authority by the parent or guardian who requested the review.

(E) AT ANY HEARING HELD UNDER THIS SECTION, UPON THE REQUEST OF A PARTY, THE HEARING OFFICER SHALL ADMINISTER OATHS TO ALL WITNESSES.

[(e)] (F) If a decision is not made on a request for review within the time prescribed by the bylaw and applicable federal law and regulations, the circuit court for the county in which the child resides or, if he resides in Baltimore City, the Baltimore City Court, on petition shall hear and make a decision on the request for review as soon as practicable after receiving the record of the case.

[(f)] (G) An appeal from the decision of the State hearing board under subsection (c) of this section shall be