



IHP's, 504 Plan's, IEPs- What's the Difference

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The Individual Health Plan

Essential to achieve educational equality for students with health management needs.

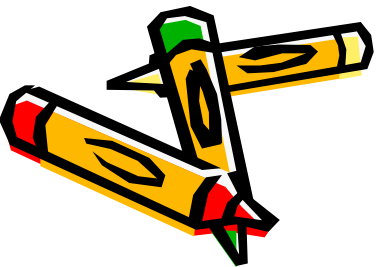
Ensures access to an education for students with special health care needs, whether or not the student is classified as eligible for special education



What is an Individual Health Plan?



- A formal written agreement developed with the interdisciplinary collaboration of the school staff in partnership with the student's family, the student, and the student's health care provider(s)



Why an IHP

- Ensures that the school has needed information and authorization
- Addresses family & school concerns
- Clarifies roles & responsibilities
- Establishes a basis for ongoing teamwork, communication, & evaluation



Who Needs an IHP

- Every student with a health impairment or physical disability needs documentation of their needs and the services to be provided through an IHP
- The IHP clarifies the provision of medication, monitoring of health status, & other aspects of health management



Development of an IHP



- Speak with your child's health care provider(s) about your child's school experiences and the potential threats to their health in the school environment
- Seek information from your child's health care provider(s) about your child's specialized needs in the school environment
- Request that your child's health care provider(s) document your child's needs and necessary supports, services, etc. in writing to share with the school
- Request a meeting with your child's school to discuss development of an Individualized Health Plan



What is a 504 Plan

It is a plan designed to accommodate the unique needs of an individual with a disability, as required by the American with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Children who have disabilities, but whose disabilities do not interfere with their ability to progress in general education are not eligible for special education services, may be entitled to a 504 Accommodation Plan.



What can be included in a 504 Plan?

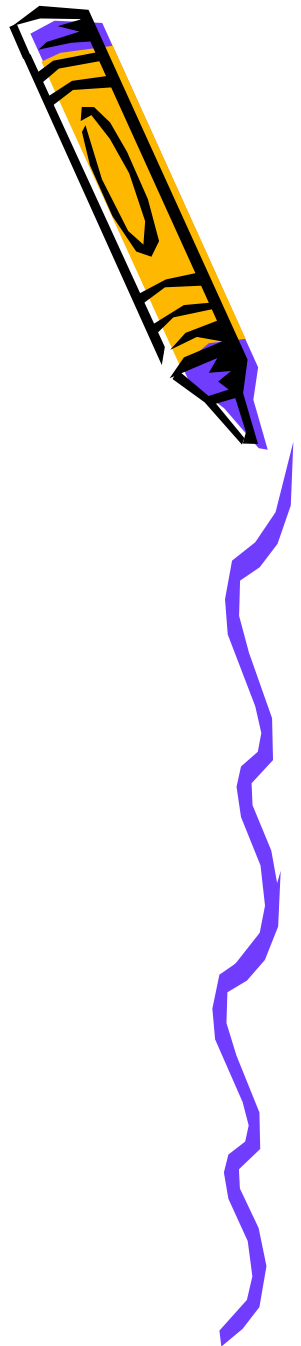


- specialized instruction, modifications to the curriculum, accommodations in non-academic and extra curricular activities, adaptive equipment or assistive technology devices, an aide, assistance with health related needs, school transportation, or other related services and accommodations.



What isn't covered in a 504 Plan

- Related Services
- Specialized Instruction
- Procedural Safeguards
- Mandatory Progress Reports
- Limited Discipline protection



Why an IEP

If your child has a condition or disability that interferes or impacts his/her ability to learn then he/she qualifies for an IEP.

An IEP is an Individualized Education Plan



I.D.E.A. 2004

- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a law ensuring services to children with disabilities throughout the nation. IDEA governs how states and public agencies provide early intervention, special education and related services to more than 6.5 million eligible infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities.



EVALUATIONS

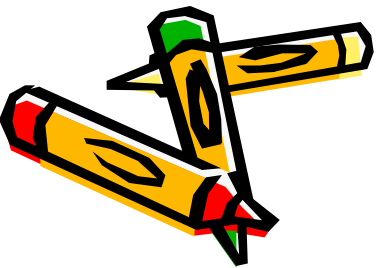


- Any one can request one including parents, teachers or school administrators
- The school district has 60 days to complete initial evaluation
- You have the right to pay for one out of your own pocket by someone you pick
- After initial evaluation, each child must undergo another evaluation every 3 years often referred to as 3 yr or Tri-annual Review



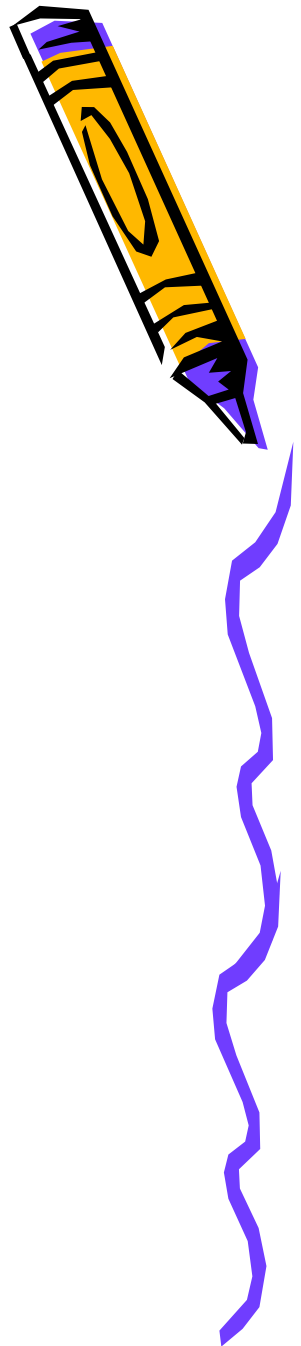
Evaluation Requirements

- Multiple areas tested
- Each area is tested by a specialist in that area such as speech therapist, a psychologist, and special education teacher.



Disability Categories

- Cognitive Disability
- a hearing impairment including deafness,
- a speech or language impairment,
- a visual impairment including blindness,
- emotional disturbance,
- an orthopedic impairment,
- autism,
- traumatic brain injury,
- other health impairment,
- a specific learning disability,
- deaf-blindness,
- or multiple disabilities,



Possible Outcomes

It is determined that your child does not have a disability and does not qualify for an IEP. You can appeal this decision

or

It is determined that your child qualifies as having a disability and an IEP needs to be completed



IEP Meeting



- You are a vital part of the IEP team
- All goals and objectives should be made at the IEP team meeting
- Related Services and Testing
Accommodations should also be decided at the IEP meeting.
- The IEP should NEVER be handed to you at the IEP meeting already filled out!!!



Least Restrictive Environment



- LRE means that to the maximum extent appropriate, students with disabilities are educated with their non disabled peers.
- LRE does not refer to a specific location or school but school setting such as inclusion in the regular classroom, resource room, or separate facility.



Related Services



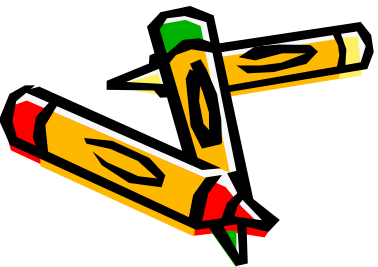
- Related services are developmental, corrective, or other supportive services that are required to assist a student with a disability to benefit from special education.
- Examples: OT, PT, SLP, counseling, mobility or orientation services, health services (help with cathing while at school)



How are 504 plans and IEPs Different

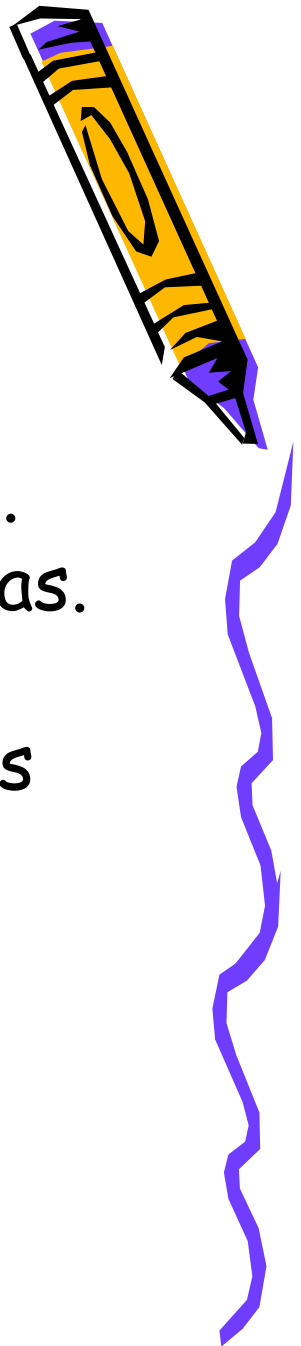


- No federal funding
- Less procedural safeguards
- No progress reporting required
- Can follow student after they leave the public school system



Accommodations

- Accommodations are made to the way students learn and how they are tested. They may be provided in five general areas.
 - instructional methods and materials
 - assignments and classroom assessments
 - time demands and scheduling
 - learning environment
 - use of special communication systems



Final Thoughts

- IEP's are individualized plans, each plan is developed for the students individual needs- this is not a cookie cutter process
- You do NOT have to sign the IEP if you do not agree with it.

