

Key Rights for a Parent of a Child Receiving Special Education Services:

- **Participation in Meetings:** Parents have the right to participate in meetings related to the identification, evaluation, and placement of their child.
- **Request an Education Evaluation:** Parents can request a free evaluation of their child's educational needs that is conducted through their child's school district.
- **Independent Educational Evaluation:** Parents can request an independent educational evaluation of their child that occurs outside of their school with a third-party professional if they disagree with the school's evaluation.
- **Prior Written Notice:** Parents must receive "prior written notice" regarding matters related to their child's identification, evaluation or placement. This lets parents know in advance of changes to their child's plan and gives them an opportunity to discuss these changes with school personnel, if desired.
- **Consent:** Parents have the right to give or deny consent before the school conducts certain actions such as evaluations, changes in services, and other educational decisions.
- **Dispute Resolution:** IDEA provides processes for resolving disputes between parents and schools. Parents can appeal decisions made by the school and there is a formal process of dispute resolution.