

Navigating the Individualized Education Program (IEP) Process

Pre-Referral

During the pre-referral phase, parents work together with teachers and staff to try and resolve problems informally within the classroom.



Referral

If informal measures are not solving the problem, you can request an evaluation for special services. Referrals can be made by parents, teachers, or other staff.

Informed Consent

After receiving a referral, the school district has 15 days to provide you with a plan for evaluating your child's needs. After reviewing it, you have 15 days to sign the consent before testing can begin.

Send a Letter

15 Days

Provide Consent

IEP Meeting

After the evaluation is done, you will meet with involved school personnel to review results and discuss your child's needs. If your child qualifies, you will discuss what services your child will receive and establish goals for the next year.

Evaluation

Qualified school district personnel will assess your child to determine whether he/she needs special education services. Evaluations may be conducted by the school psychologist, speech/language pathologists, occupational and physical therapists, and others as needed.

Attend IEP Meeting

30 Days

Be Evaluated

60 Days

Revisions

The IEP is reviewed annually or whenever you request a review meeting. Every 3 years, your child will be re-assessed to make sure the services are the best fit for your needs.

NOTE: Timelines are based on standards for families in California. Your state may vary.

Implement Plan

Attend Annual Review Meetings

Implementation

Once you have signed the IEP, it will be implemented as soon as possible. If you disagree with the plan, you can request mediation to resolve the dispute.

Prepared by Nicole Connolly, Ph.D.
<http://drnicoleconnolly.com>



School Success!