

IDEA /Special Education Helpful Links

Most of the links give recommendations based on Federal and Florida guidelines. Others are helpful links from other States. The Federal Government has provided the basic guidelines however specific details can vary from State to State. Some of the links might be dated if written before December 2004. In December 2004 the President reauthorized the IDEA law with some changes in definitions and State and Local funding provisions. For more information on this please refer to link: <http://www.nichcy.org/reauth/tb-nclb-align.pdf>

Definitions:

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): the law under which special education (and early intervention for children less than three years of age) are typically provided to children with disabilities.

Child Study: The Process to determine eligibility for Special Educational services (and types of services)

Individual Education Plan (IEP): The plan in which a child receives special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This is a written document listing the special educational services that the child will receive. The IEP is developed by a team that includes the child's parents and school staff. The IEP is a LEGAL document, therefore important to understand and agree before signing.

Special Education Service Categories that qualify for Special Educational Services:

- Mental retardation –cognitive delay only
- Specific Learning Disability –one specific area that causes decreased learning in others areas. Examples are Dyslexia, Specific Math Learning Disorder , visual or auditory processing disorders
- Developmental delay—the student is 25% (not quite Mental retardation) below the age level in cognitive skills and less than eight years of age.
- Orthopedic Delay---Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy etc. Often require PT or OT services
- Speech and Language delay
- Autism---considered separately from Speech and Language.
- Hearing Impaired
- Vision Impaired
- Emotional /Behavioral Disorder/Disturbances---require Psychological Intervention
- Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Over time ABI patient may be able to advanced back into regular services
- Other Health Impaired ----that may need accommodations such as diabetes, Cystic Fibrosis, severe Asthmatic

Note: ADHD alone does not qualify one for special education services however, may possibly qualify for SLD or for (seen in up to 60%) . 504 students often requires some modification such as test taking time or seating. See more 504 links below)

National Links

Library of Congress (Thomas):The 2004 IDEA in its entirety

See the NICHCY site below for easy to follow information of the IDEA law

<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/querz/z?c108:h.1350.enr>:

<http://idea.ed.gov/download/finalregulations.pdf>

National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities. (NICHCY)

A National source for information on: disabilities in infants, toddlers, children, and youth, IDEA, No Child Left Behind (as it relates to children with disabilities), and Research-based information on effective educational practices.

Their information is reviewed by the Department of Education with regard to accuracy

National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities section on the IEP process along with their

www.nichcy.org/index.html home page

<http://www.nichcy.org/about.htm> About NDCCD

<http://www.nichcy.org/resources/IEP1.asp>

<http://www.nichcy.org/pubs/parent/pa12txt.htm>

<http://www.nichcy.org/idealist.htm> 2004 Updated and reviewed IDEA material

<http://www.nichcy.org/resources/LAWS2.HTM> Legal information about IDEA

<http://www.nichcy.org/reauth/tb-priv-school.pdf> For Children attending private schools

A quick and brief overview of the IEP Process by the Federal Government

<http://www.ed.gov/parents/needs/speced/iepguide/index.html>

Parent Guide for No child left behind:

<http://www.ed.gov/parents/academic/involve/nclbguide/parentsguide.html>

<http://www.nichcy.org/resources/LAWS2.HTM#NCLB>

The Florida Department of Education

Main Page which also has a search.

<http://www.firn.edu/doe/>

The Florida Department of Education IDEA summary

<http://www.fldoe.org/ese/pdf/ideasumm.pdf>

Florida's guideline for determination for "Specific Learning Disabilities"

http://www.fldoe.org/ese/pdf/Interim_SLD_07.pdf

Procedural Safeguards for the Florida Department of education

<http://www.fldoe.org/ese/pdf/procedural.pdf>

Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (ESE) with information links

<http://www.fldoe.org/ese/>

See also the bottom of the page for topics of special interests for useful information

The Florida Department of Education's IDEA guide for teachers/parents

<http://www.fldoe.org/ese/doc/ideagide.doc>

Other States

Special Education in Plain Language

By CESA, an Educational services in Wisconsin

A good overview of the legal vernacular of IDEA

<http://www.cesa7.k12.wi.us/sped/parents/plieprocess.htm>

A good link site to Special Educational issues throughout the Country

<http://www.psj.k12.tx.us/schools/Elem/Chavez2/Links/Special%20Education%20Information%20Links.htm>

Florida Department of Education summary for Procedural Safeguards for Students with Disabilities per Parent Connections

<http://www.dixie.k12.fl.us/parentconnection/safeguards.htm>

One Parent's recommendations on the IEP process and how the Doctor may help

http://lady_spider.tripod.com/drletter.html

Section 504

Section 504 is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. This law applies to, among other entities, public elementary and secondary schools. Children with disabilities may be eligible for special education and related services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. That's because Section 504's definition of disability is broader than the IDEA's definition. Information on what the law requires of school districts can be found in the following resources:

John Copenhaver's handbook called *Section 504 - Procedural Requirements for School Districts* explains basic procedural requirements for school districts relating to Section 504, followed by suggested implementation strategies school districts can consider to satisfy each requirement. The handbook is available from: Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center (MPRRC), 1780 No. Research Parkway, Suite 112, Logan, UT 84341, 435.752.0238 ext. 19, 435.753.9750 (TTY), scrane@cc.usu.edu (email), www.usu.edu/mprrc/ (Web).

Office for Civil Rights:

Section 504 is enforced by the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights. Visit OCR's Web site for information on the law.

www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html

Contact information of OCR headquarters and its enforcement offices:

<http://wdcrocolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm>

OCR information on disability discrimination:

www.ed.gov/policy/rights/guid/ocr/disability.html

OCR also offers many technical assistance documents helpful when disability is involved.

www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/disabilityresources.html

★ LRP Publications offers *Who's Eligible for Section 504? A Quick-Reference Guide for Proper Placement*. Call 1.800.341.7874 for cost details, or order online at:

www.lrp.com