

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The central area is white, providing a clean space for the text.

Special Education Guidance



Tips for Meeting

- ▶ Sit in a location where you can see and hear everyone.
- ▶ Dress appropriately.
- ▶ Communicate clearly.
- ▶ Stay on task.
- ▶ Respect others.
- ▶ Share your ideas.
- ▶ Be open to new suggestions.

Things to Bring to IEP Meetings

Current IEP Plan

Evaluations from
independent
doctors and
therapists

Recent school
evaluation(s)

Work samples
(math, writing,
etc.)

List of questions
& concerns

Areas of
strength and
how child feels
about school

Progress reports
and testing
information

Proposed goals

Individualized
supports and
services



Special Education Disability Categories

- ▶ Dyslexia, Dysgraphia, Dyscalculia, Auditory Processing Disorder, Nonverbal Learning Disability, Other Health Impairment, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Emotional Disturbance, Speech or Language Impairment, Visual Impairment including Blindness, Deafness, Hearing Impairment, Deaf-Blindness, Orthopedic Impairment, Intellectual Disability, Traumatic Brain Injury, Developmental Delay, Mental Disability, and Multiple Disabilities

Student was Screened - What Does This Mean?



- ▶ Screening lets you know where your student is developmentally and if a referral for a further evaluation for services is needed.
- ▶ Written consent must be provided by a parent or guardian before any evaluations can be administered by the school staff.



The Next Step

- ▶ The school system has 60 school days once written consent is provided by the parent to complete the evaluation and conduct an ARC meeting to go over the results.
- ▶ A typical IEP is valid for one calendar year. As a parent, you can request an ARC meeting at any time if you have concerns regarding your student's IEP.

- ▶ **The IEP contains information about the measurable goals and benchmarks for each student.**



What is an IEP?

- ▶ An Individual Education Program, or IEP, is a written statement of the educational program designed to meet a student's individual needs.
- ▶ Every student who receives special education services must have an IEP.
- ▶ Students who receive special education services must learn in the least restrictive environment, or LRE.

Who will attend the ARC meeting?

- ▶ Parents, student by age 14 or older (invited), a representative from the school system to chair the meeting, a regular or special education teacher and related services personnel if appropriate will attend the meeting. Parents may ask an advocate, therapists, physicians, and other support personnel to attend the meeting for their individual.



What is the Least Restrictive Environment?





Least Restrictive Environment

- ▶ The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires that students receiving services should be participating with peers in general education setting as much as possible.
- ▶ Removal from general education classes should only occur when a child's disability is severe enough that supplemental services can no longer provide an appropriate education.



PLP

- ▶ The IEP outlines the child's present level of performance (PLP) in the following areas: Communication, Academic Performance, Health/Vision/Hearing/Motor Abilities/Social/Emotional Status, General Intelligence, and Transition Needs.

IEP Goal Examples

- ▶ Cody will demonstrate reading comprehension by earning at least a 3 on all reading assignments and assessments on 2 out of 3 occasions measured at least three times during each nine-week grading period.
- ▶ Billy will receive speech therapy 30 minutes 5 times per month by a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) in the resource room.





IEP Benchmark Example

- ▶ After being presented with a comprehensive question, Cody will read the passage, paragraph, sentence, to accurately answer the question and work toward meeting his reading goal on 4 of 5 attempts with 90% accuracy.

What Are Supplementary Aids & Services?

- ▶ These are services that are provided in various education related, extracurricular and nonacademic settings that allow students with disabilities to be educated and participate with nondisabled children to the maximum extent appropriate.



Examples of Supplemental Aids & Services

- ▶ Computer, software, voice-to-text
- ▶ Study Guides
- ▶ Copies of Notes
- ▶ Prompting and Cueing
- ▶ Calculator
- ▶ Extended Time - Double Time
- ▶ Push button locker
- ▶ Ability to leave class early
- ▶ Sensory Breaks
- ▶ Electronic Device for taking pictures of assignments, notes, etc.
- ▶ Shortened Assignments

first		then	
			
 group time	 seat work	 ipad	 books/ library
 free choice	 snack	 special activity	 music/ movement



My Child has an IEP, now what?

- ▶ Always be certain to track your child's progress.
- ▶ Take any feedback you can to improve the quality of your child's life from the school staff and follow-through at home.
- ▶ Be involved and raise any concerns you have moving forward.
- ▶ You can always schedule another meeting if you feel the need.
- ▶ Know your rights and always advocate for your child's needs to the best of your ability!

What if my child has needs outside of education?

- ▶ Remember that the school system can only accommodate the needs of your child that relate directly to education based needs.
- ▶ Consider utilizing outside sources for needs not covered by the school system if your child needs them.



504 Plans



- ▶ 504 plans are formal plans that schools develop to give students with disabilities the supports they need. These plans protect the rights and prevent discrimination of students with disabilities in school.
- ▶ Individuals are covered under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, which is a civil rights law. They do not provide individualized instruction like IEPs.
- ▶ 504 Plans modify the general education environment so that students maintain the least restrictive environment and stay with their peers throughout the school day.
- ▶ 504 plans do not include individualized special education and related services to match the specialized needs of each child.

504 Examples

- ▶ Provide an extra set of books for home, seat student near the front of the classroom, provide the student with a quiet area for test taking, write homework in agenda book, provide classroom notes, provide folder system for organization, provide sensory breaks, provide a written or picture schedule, behavior management support, verbal testing, and reduced homework.



Civil Rights

- ▶ Report discrimination at education institutions on the basis of race, sex, disability, national origin or age.
- ▶ Information on civil rights compliance programs.
- ▶ Procedures for filing discrimination complaints.
- ▶ Access to civil rights regulatory and policy documents.
- ▶ Phone: 1-800-421-3481
- ▶ TTY: 877-521-2172
- ▶ E-mail: OCR@ed.gov www.ed.gov/ocr

Kentucky Department of Education Contact Information

- ▶ <https://education.ky.gov/specialed/excep/Pages/Contact-Information.aspx>

Kentucky Department of Education

General information about U.S. Department of Education programs, funding opportunities, services and publications

Referrals to Department programs and offices

Directory assistance to Department staff

Information about legislation and policy

Contact:

300 Sower Blvd., 5th Floor

Frankfort, KY 40601

P: (502) 564-3141

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