

TERMS TO KNOW

FAPE

- Children with disabilities have the right to a free and appropriate public education (FAPE). It ensures that each child receives an education that meets his/her individual needs.

IEP

- An Individualized Education Program (IEP) is a legally binding document that sets goals for an eligible child based on their unique needs and strengths. The IEP explains the services and supports the school will provide, and how progress will be monitored.

Present Level of Performance

- Present level of performance serve as the starting point for the coming year's IEP. Present level of performance focus on a child's strengths, needs, and grade level expectations for both academic and functional performance. Present levels play an important role in setting annual goals for the IEP.

LRE

- Least restrictive environment (LRE) means that students with disabilities have to be educated in the same setting as students without disabilities as much as possible, as long as their needs can be met.

Accommodation

- An accommodation is a change made because of a student's disability to allow them to participate and benefit from their education. Accommodations don't change what a child is expected to know.

FBA

- A functional behavioral assessment (FBA) is a process used to try to understand a child's challenging behaviors. It attempts to identify when and where specific behaviors occur, and the function of the behavior for the child. The school then writes a behavior intervention plan (BIP), which outlines how to address the issues.

Related Services

- Specialized services required for the student to benefit from special education. Ex: Physical therapy, counseling, and/or transportation.

Prior Written Notice

- Schools must tell parents in writing before changes are made or refused regarding a child's evaluation, eligibility or the child's special education program.

Procedural Safeguards

- Schools must give parents a written explanation of the rights that they and the student have under IDEA. This is sometimes called the parent rights handbook.