IEP | 504 | Gifted Overview



Developmental Research School at the University of Florida

What is an IEP?

An IEP is an Individualized Educational Program written for students with a qualifying disability under the Individuals with Disability Education Improvement Act who need specially designed instruction in the general education classroom environment.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act defines 13 categories of Special Education. Examples include Autism, Intellectual Disability, Orthopedic Impairment, Specific Learning Disability, and Speech or Language Impairment.

An IEP includes the student's present levels of performance, specially designed instruction, annual goals that will be progress monitored, related services if needed, and accommodations.

Accommodation examples include preferential seating, copies of notes, frequent breaks, and extended time on assessments and assignments.

The following steps are used to determine eligibility for an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

- Multiple levels of academic and behavior interventions are provided in school based on need
- Student response to intervention is monitored.
- If needed, school psychological evaluation initiated (with parent consent)
- Meeting of parents, evaluators, and team members to review evaluation and determine eligibility.
- If eligible, create an IEP
- Meet annually to update the IEP.

What is a 504 plan?

A 504 Plan is an educational plan that is written for students with a qualifying disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act who need accommodations.

Disabilities that fall under Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act include physical or mental impairments that substantially limit a major life activity. Physical or mental impairments are defined as physiological disorders, cosmetic disfigurement or anatomical loss and any mental or psychological disorder. Major life impact may include ability to care for oneself perform manual task, seeing, hearing, eating, walking, speaking, breathing, learning, concentrating, thinking, communicating, and working.

A 504 is an **accommodation** plan. Examples of accommodations may include extra time for assignments, , physical accessibility, and prearranged visits to nurse for medicine.

The following steps are used to determine eligibility under Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act (504).

- Psychological or Medical evaluation conducted outside of school
- Meeting of parents, evaluators, and team members to determine eligibility
- 3. If eligible, create a 504 plan
- Meet every 3 years to review student progress and update plan as necessary

What if my child is gifted?

An EP is an Educational Plan written for students who qualify as gifted based on criteria listed in Rule 6A-6.03019, Florida Administrative Code.

The state provides guidelines on rigorous curricula and high expectations based on current levels of performance for the student. Instructional strategies are appropriately differentiated so that the performance of gifted students will be increased or maintained at high levels.

An EP includes the student's present levels of academic achievement and performance, annual goals that will be progress monitored, and a plan for specially designed instruction to meet the specified goals.

Gifted students choose at least 2 personal goals for development. Goals include higher levels of thinking, self-directed learning, positive self-concept, positive interpersonal relationships, and critical thinking and expression.

The following steps are used to determine eligibility for a Gifted Educational Plan (EP).

- All 3rd grade students are screened and parent or teacher referrals are considered across all grades.
- Students who pass screening are formally evaluated (with parent consent)
- Meeting of parents, evaluators, and team members to determine eligibility
- If eligible, create an Educational Plan (EP)
- Meet every 3 years to review student progress and update plan as necessary