



# I.E.P. BASICS



## The I.E.P. Meeting

Your child should have an Individualized Education Plan (I.E.P.) meeting every year in order to review and/or develop the following:

- Present Levels of performance
- Measurable annual goals (SMART Goals)
- Special education services provided
- Related services being provided
- Determination of the Least Restrictive Environment
- Program modifications or accommodations
- Transition goals and services, if the child is 16 years or older



## SMART I.E.P. GOALS ARE:

- Specific
- Measurable
- Action-Driven (use action words)
- Realistic and relevant
- Time-limited

### Example:

By October 15, 2015, John will add single-digit numbers with 85% accuracy in 8 out of 10 trials using touch math.

## Related Services

- Speech and language therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Audiological services
- Vision therapy
- Orientation and mobility instruction
- Adapted Physical Education (APE)
- Mental Health services
- Health and nursing services
- Assistive technology
- Transportation
- Social skills training
- Behavior intervention services (ABA)

## Least Restrictive Environment

- General Education/Full Inclusion: Child is in a regular education classroom with non-disabled peers 100% of the time
- Mainstreaming: child spends some of the day within regular education setting
- Resource Specialist Program (RSP): child is fully included in most subjects, but is pulled out for extra tutorial assistance
- Special Day Class (SDC): classroom comprised of children with disabilities that need extra curriculum support
- County Program: examples include deaf and hard of hearing and emotionally disturbed classes
- Non-Public School (NPS): school only with children with disabilities
- Home/Hospital: children with medical needs that are unable to participate in classroom setting
- Residential Treatment Facility

## I.E.P. BASICS - What You Should Know

### Safeguards

- **Compliance Compliant**

You can file against the school district when they have not followed special educational laws or if they have not implemented what is already in your child's I.E.P.

- ◇ Filed with the California Department of Education who will conduct an investigation

- **Due Process**

This is a legal procedure that ensues when there is a disagreement between you and the school district as to what should go in the I.E.P.

- ◇ Often it starts with mediation in an attempt to develop a resolution without having to go to hearing
- ◇ Mediation is optional

### Reminders to Parents

- You can request and I.E.P. meeting any time you have concerns
- The school has 30 days to schedule the requested I.E.P.
- Request copies of your child's assessments prior to the I.E.P. meeting
- You can bring an advocate, attorney, or friend to the meeting
- You can tape record your I.E.P. meeting (make sure to give written notice at least 24 hours in advance)
- Do not sign the I.E.P. unless you are completely satisfied

### IDEA: Your Rights

Under the Individuals with Disabilities

Education Act, your child is entitled to (in part):

- An annual I.E.P.
  - ◇ You can request one anytime
  - ◇ The school has 30 days to schedule the requested meeting (EC 56343.5)
- A Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
  - ◇ From ages 3 to 21 (sometimes to 22)
  - ◇ Includes related services
- Placement in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)



### Disability Rights California

Special Education Rights and Responsibilities

To order: (800) 776-5746

[www.disabilityrightscalifornia.org](http://www.disabilityrightscalifornia.org)

### California Department of Education

Composite of Laws

[www.cde.ca.gov](http://www.cde.ca.gov)

### CalSTAT

Tools to Develop, Implement, and Score a Behavior Support Plan

To order: <http://www.calstat.org>

### Additional Online Resources:

- ◇ [www.sccd.ca.gov](http://www.sccd.ca.gov)
- ◇ [www.wrightslaw.com](http://www.wrightslaw.com)
- ◇ [www.warmlinefrc.org](http://www.warmlinefrc.org)
- ◇ [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)