



## Special Education Parent Guide

### What to Expect



#### **A Concern is Expressed**

You may express concerns about your child anytime. Talk to a teacher or counselor and see if they have anything to add. A general education problem-solving team will consider interventions that may be provided.

#### **Evaluation is Considered**

If you think your child has a disability, you can ask for an evaluation. Talk to the principal, school counselor, or teacher. The problem-solving team will decide if an evaluation is necessary and get permission from you to proceed.

#### **Eligibility is Determined**

An evaluation of your child is completed. The results of the evaluation will be considered by the special education team of which you are a member. Here, your child's eligibility for special education services will be determined.

#### **IEP is Developed**

If your child is eligible for special education services, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) will be developed by the team of which you are a member. The IEP will then be implemented.



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#### How do I prepare for the IEP meeting?

Be ready to answer these questions:

- What are your child's strengths?
- What concerns do you have about your child in school?
- What information can you give about your child's health, development, and educational history?
- Are there any past evaluations you can share?

#### Who will be there?

- **Parent/Adult Student:** speaks of strengths, needs, goals
- **District Representative:** has knowledge of general education, authority to commit resources, keeps the meeting on track
  - **Special Education Teacher:** guides the IEP planning
- **General Education Teacher:** speaks to the student's performance in the general education classroom
- **Someone to explain assessments:** must be present when the team reviews assessment results
- **Additional Team Members:** any others that might have helpful information about the student



#### What happens after an IEP is created?

- The school implements IEP
- Annual goal(s) are measured and progress reported to parents
- The IEP is reviewed annually; revisions made as appropriate
- Reevaluation occurs every 3 years to determine if the student continues to qualify for special education

#### Resource Links

- [Idaho Training Clearinghouse Parent Resources](#)
- [Idaho Department of Education Special Education Parent Page](#)

