IEP or 504 Plan

Navigating the IEP or 504 process can feel overwhelming with all the jargon and requirements. Here are some easy-to-understand tools to help you feel more confident as you advocate for your child's school services:

IMPORTANT FACTS

What is an IEP?

**Individualized Education Program
(commonly called an IEP in the school setting)**

A written document outlining a child's levels of educational performance, strengths, needs, goals, objectives, services, and transition plan. It ensures that children with disabilities who qualify receive tailored instruction and services to meet their individualized needs.

What is a 504 Plan?

504 Plan (commonly called a 504 in the school setting)

Guarantees that children with disabilities receive accommodations and modifications in the school setting, providing equal access to participate in activities with their peers. Section 504 defines a person with a disability as having a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits major life activities.

GETTING THE PROCESS STARTED

- **Request an Evaluation** — Parents can request the school evaluate their child for services at no cost.
- **Collaborate with the School Team** — Work with your child's teacher, counselor, special education staff, administrator and specialists to determine the educational goals and services your child needs.
- **Build Relationships** — Communication and building relationships with your child's school team create a positive school-home environment that fosters educational success.

NEED HELP?

Contact the Oklahoma Parents Center
Connect with the Oklahoma Parents Center (OPC) for assistance in navigating the path to getting your child the services and support for special education. Visit Oklahoma Parents Center: **oklahomaparentscenter.org**

HELPFUL RESOURCES

- **Special Education Terms** Oklahoma Parents Center — oklahomaparentscenter.org/special-educationterms/
- **Parents Guide to a 504** Children's Health — childrens.com/patient-families/resources-for-yourchild/school-and-education-services/school-services-parent-resources/parents-guide-for-section-504
- **Starting the IEP Process** Understood.org — understood.org/en/articles/how-to-getiep#Getting_the_IEP_process_started

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