

IDEA and 504 Comparison Chart

Component	IDEA	Section 504
Independent Evaluation	Allows parents to request an independent Education Evaluation (IEE) at the school district's expense if the parent or guardian disagrees with the evaluation obtained by the school district. The independent evaluator must meet the same criteria the district requires for their employees and must be approved by all parties.	Does not allow independent evaluations at the district's expense or the ability to request an independent education evaluation.
Procedural Safeguards	<p>Required written notice to the parents or guardian prior to identification, evaluation and/or placement of the child.</p> <p>Changes of services or placement must have written notice before any changes can take place. Requires due process rights to be followed at all times and a manifestation determination hearing for discipline procedures.</p> <p>For any child with behavioral concerns, a Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) must be completed and a Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) written to assist the student in learning appropriate behaviors and providing supports to enable the student to be successful in their learning community.</p>	<p>Does not require written notice to the parent or guardian.</p> <p>Requires notice before a "significant change" in placement. Requires due process rights if the child is referred to formal evaluations under IDEA, and the team determines not to evaluate.</p>
Placement Decisions	<p>Requires the district and schools to use information from a variety of sources consider all documentation information and use a team approach to make eligibility decisions. Team member are identified under IDEA and must be knowledgeable about the child, evaluation data, the continuum of placements and services available.</p> <p>Requires that the student receives a free and appropriate education with his or her non-disabled peers in the least restricted environment (LRE).</p>	<p>Requires the district and schools to use information from a variety of sources and to consider all documented information. Uses a team approach to make eligibility decisions, with team members being knowledgeable about the child, evaluation data, and the continuum of placements and services available.</p> <p>The student must receive a free and appropriate education with his or non-disabled peers.</p> <p>A meeting is not required for a change</p>

	Requires an IEP meeting before any changes in placement or services is made. Students are eligible for a full continuum of placement options, including regular education with related services, as needed.	of placement. Students are served in general education with or without modifications.
Due Process	Requires districts to provide resolution sessions and due process hearings for parents or guardians who disagree with the identification, evaluation, implementation of IEP, or the student's LRE placement.	Requires districts to provide grievance procedures for parents and students who disagree with the identification, evaluation, implementation of plan, or LRE placement. A grievance procedure to follow must be provided to parents and employees and a 504 coordinator identified in the district to assist individuals as needed. Does not require a due process hearing before Office for Civil Rights (OCR) involvement or court action, unless the student is also covered by IDEA. Compensatory damages are possible.

Accronyms

APE- Adaptive Physical Education

IEE- Independent Education Evaluation

AT- Assistive Technology

LEA- Local Education Agency

BIP- Behavior Intervention Plan

LRE- Least Restrictive Education

CMC-Content Mastery Center

OCR- Office of Civil Rights

DD- Development Disability

OT- Occupational Therapy

EBD- Emotional Behavioral Disorder

PT- Physical Therapy

EPSDT- Early Periodic Screening and Diagnostic Testing

ESYP- Extended School Year Program

SBLC- School Building Level Committee

FAPE- Free Appropriate Public Education

SDE- State Department of Education

FBA- Functional Behavior Assessment

IDEA-Individual Disabilities Education Act

IAP-Individual Accommodation Plan