



## Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What are the frequently used Special Education Acronyms and what do they mean?

A: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/idea/part-b-app/documents/march-2018-608-analysis.pdf>

Q: What is the difference between an IEP and a 504 Plan?

A: An IEP is an individualized student educational plan that is written when a child qualifies for special education. There are [13 qualifying conditions](#) of special education including autism, specific learning disability, intellectual disabilities and speech disorders. A 504 plan is an educational plan that is written for a student who needs modifications or accommodations within the regular classroom environment. This usually pertains to students who have ADHD, psychological disorders, medical conditions and physical disabilities.

Q: What does Individualized Education Program mean?

A: An Individualized Education Program (IEP) is a written statement of the educational program designed to meet a child's individual needs. Every child who receives special education services must have an IEP.

The IEP has two general purposes:

1. To set measurable/achievable learning goals for your child.
2. To state the services that the school district will provide for your child.

Q: Can my child's IEP be changed?

A: Yes. At least once a year a meeting must be scheduled with you to review your child's progress and develop your child's next IEP. This annual IEP meeting allows you and the school to review your child's educational program and change it as necessary. **You don't have to wait for this annual review.** You (or any other team member) may ask to have your child's IEP reviewed or revised at any time.

Q: I feel my child is not adequately progressing in school, what should I do?

A: Speak with your child's teacher to express your concerns and discuss building level supports. If the building supports are unable to meet the needs of your child then please refer to our webpage and the initial referral process of special education.