

School Accommodations: What you need to know

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Recognizing Need for Supports

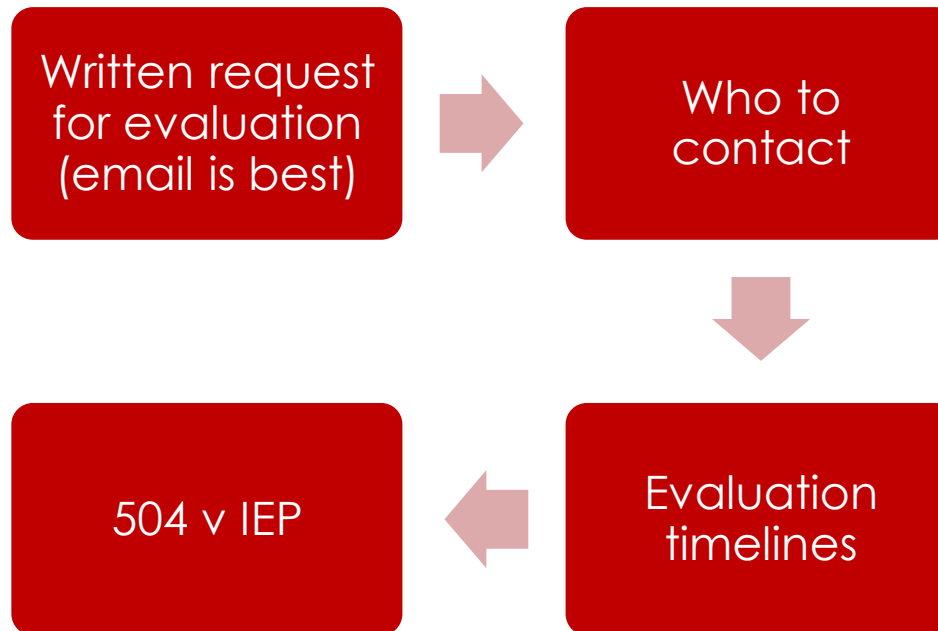
Child is struggling
academically,
behaviorally,
socially

Teacher has
expressed
concern

Child has a
private diagnosis

You have a gut
feeling

Where to Start



*Parents can seek a private evaluation, but this can have limitations in public school.

Private Schools

- Private schools do not have to provide supports/services
- If your child is in private school, districts are still obligated to evaluate for a suspected disability
- Private schools may accept private evaluations or school evaluations
- Private schools with supports and specialized private schools

The Basics: 504 vs IEP

504 Plan

- Under ADA
- Accommodations

Special Education- IEP

- IDEA
- Specialized Instruction and goals

The Plan: Educational Need

- There must be an educational need for either plan
- 504 Plan- Parent is not a required participant. Typically includes parent, teacher, and administrator
 - Accommodations
- IEP Plan- Parent is required participants. Must include general education teacher, special education teacher, administrator.
 - Present Levels
 - Accommodations
 - Goals
 - Services

Parent Role

- Parent role is important in both a 504 plan and an IEP
- A 504 plan is a more general plan
- IEP- parent and administrator must agree to the proposed plan
 - Procedural safeguards and parent rights
- Data is important for both

Implementation and Monitoring

- Teachers must receive the 504 Plan or IEP for their students
- Must implement plans and document
- IEP goals must be monitored and you should receive progress updates
- You can request a meeting if you have concerns (more rights under IEP)

Common Issues

- Lack of communication/no response
 - Email is important for documentation
 - Escalate to next level (admin or district)
- Accommodations not being provided
 - Email concern to admin
- Disagree with the school
 - Rights under 504 and Special Education

Advocates- Do you need one?

- What we do:
 - Help interpret laws and rights
 - Attend meetings and guide parents through process
 - Assist with issues
- Why it matters:
 - Reduces parent stress
 - Improves outcomes for students
 - Can get issues resolved quicker
- When do you need an advocate:
 - You want to better understand the process
 - You have an issue or concern with the school
 - Complex student needs

TEAM

- Emma- SLP background, 25+ years in special education
- Krystal- SpEd teacher, 12+ years in special education
- Kyla- SpEd teacher, 15+ years in education
- Sonia- SpEd teacher, bilingual, 10 years in education
- Leilani- Retired admin, 30+ years in education
- Rachael- SpEd teacher, 20+ years in special education
- Janice- SpEd teacher, BCBA

Parent Tips



Keep records/documentation



Email is best



Know your rights



Collaboration is important

Questions



Contact info

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