

This information is a summary of federal and state laws on your rights as the parent of a child with a disability. You are entitled to a complete copy of your rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Your Service Coordinator Information

Your Inclusion Support Facilitator

Your Child's IFSP Information



Procedural Safeguards: Know Your Rights



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The ***Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)*** is a four-part piece of American legislation that ensures students with a disability are provided with appropriate support that is tailored to their individual needs. Under IDEA, parents have the right to:

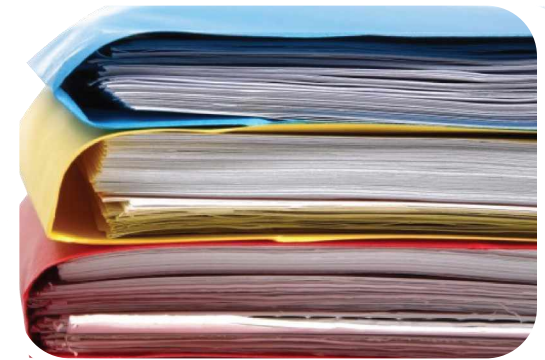


Evaluation & Assessment

As a parent, you can refer your child for evaluation and assessment, and provide information throughout the process. You have a right to participate in the evaluation and assessment process. You can participate in the meeting to share the results of the evaluation and assessments and to participate in all decisions regarding eligibility and services. The evaluation and assessment must be administered in the language of the parent's choice. They will be conducted by qualified personnel and will look at five developmental areas (physical, communication, cognitive, adaptive, and social-emotional).

Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

An individualized family service plan (IFSP) is a written plan for providing early intervention services to an eligible child (age 0-3 years) and the child's family. A first time assessment and IFSP meeting must take place within 45 days. The IFSP will be reviewed every 6 months, or sooner at the parent's request. You have a right to attend the IFSP meeting and participate in the development. You can invite advocates or other family members to these meetings. The contents of the IFSP must be fully explained to you in the language of your choice and you must receive a complete copy. You can request services be provided in a natural environment (home or school) and will receive an explanation if it's not possible. You have the right to consent to or deny any service listed on the IFSP and be notified of any proposed changes.



Confidentiality & Access to Records

As a parent, you have the right to access records relating to your child within 5 days of your request. You have the right to request for information on those records be changed or removed.

Mediation Conferences, Due Process Hearings, and State Complaints

You have the right to request a mediation conference and/or a due process hearing if an assessment is refused or a change to services/placement is proposed. You can file a complain if you believe there has been a violation of your rights and if a due process decision is not implemented. You must be informed of your rights through the mediation, due process, and complaint process. A due process hearing request form can be obtained from your service coordinator and/or the Regional Center.

Timeline for Evaluation, Assessment, and IFSP

Call Orange County Regional Center (or your local Regional Center if you live outside of Orange County) and share your concerns.

You will be assigned a case coordinator who will help with initial evaluations.

An IFSP meeting will be held to review results and recommended services.

The entire process should take no longer than 45 working days.

Additional Resources

This is a summary of procedural safeguards under federal and state laws for *Early Intervention Part C of IDEA*. A more extensive description of the Early Intervention Rights of Parents and Children, is available from the Department of Developmental Services, Early Start division.