

IEPs Vs ISPs

WHEN YOUR SPECIAL LEARNER PARTICIPATES IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

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Questions You May Have

There's probably a lot.

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What You will Learn

- Are public schools legally required to provide services to your child?
- What's the difference between an IEP and an ISP? Why is that important?
- What are pros and cons for using services at your LEA?
- How do you navigate the ISP process?

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Hi! I'm Amanda ☺

- Homeschool graduate from Indiana
- Fulltime speech language pathologist in a public school
- Run a private practice (speech therapy!)
- Homeschooling has always been the only option for our children.

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Disclaimers/Conflicts of Interest

- I run an online speech therapy business
 - But I help people find their fit
- I work in the public schools and have worked in medical & early intervention as an SLP
 - But I am passionate about homeschool freedom, medical freedom, natural medicine options, parent rights, and transparency with families on what their options are.
- I AM NOT A LAWYER. The information provided in this workshop will be excerpts take directly from the code and anecdotes and observation from one public school speech language pathologist. It should not be taken as legal interpretation or advice.

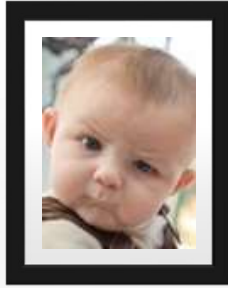
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Getting to know You

Getting to know all about you

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- Had child enrolled in PS?
- Had a child in Special Education?
- Is part of a larger "Non-Pub" school or coop?
- Has or Is receiving special education services through Public School?



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Things that make this Messy

- Article 7 provides the law from which state laws are based, but there are variations in state laws and interpretation.
- In some states, the range of interpretation leads to difference between districts and even policies from one year to the next
- There can be differences in services based on: state, district, age group, and whether a child was previously enrolled in public school or not.

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Are public schools legally required to provide services to your child?

It Depends.

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It Depends on...

- Their age (3-5 yr olds have more options)
- Whether or not there is academic impact.
 - access and benefit from a general education curriculum
 - Can be tricky for homeschoolers to prove
- If they were previously enrolled with an IEP
 - Because it makes academic impact easier to assess
- If the public school placed a child into a private school (but homeschool?)
 - HARSHA, DAMAR, etc

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Child Find
(Am I entitled to an Evaluation?)

- Public Schools are required to locate, identify, evaluate children with disabilities.
 - "schools make all kinds of efforts to identify the children so they can comply with the law, including requesting anyone who suspects a child of having a learning disability to report that child to authorities—regardless of whether the parents are already providing services that their child needs through homeschooling."
- The Public School has to offer, it is in their best interests to evaluate the child of any parent who asks, but you don't have to give them your information.

<https://hslida.org/post/the-inside-scoop-on-idea-s-child-find-and-homeschoolers>

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Is the School Required to Provide Services

It Depends.

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School Services Depend On

- **Presence of a disability.** This is measured differently per state, district, provider.
Often based on percentile.
Some districts are stricter.
- **Presence of academic impact:**
Be prepared to provide academic information such as grades, grade level, reading level, samples of work, etc.
- Whether you accept their offer of FAPE, and what they offer for ISP services.
The law requires the offer of services through FAPE.
The law requires access to "comparable services."
ISP: "Equitable" does not necessarily mean equal.

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What's the difference between an IEP and an ISP? Why is that important?

Because in the state of Indiana, it really is important!

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IEPs vs ISPs

<p>INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You have a parent rights document that specifies how to appeal decisions, timelines, etc.• Due process procedures if you feel your child is not being provided FAPE.• More services.• Not budget dependent	<p>INDIVIDUALIZED SERVICE PLAN (NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH IEP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The parent rights document is a guideline. (handy for timelines thought),• No due process procedure if you feel your child is not being provided FAPE.• Can be consultative only.• Based on funding available for "equitable services" based on the proportionate share.
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Why is the Difference Important?

- It impacts your rights to influence the document.
- It impacts your level of services offered.
- It can impact the level of support and progress you may see in your child.

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Do I want to Use Public School Special Education Services?

It... depends.

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Using SPED services

<p>PROS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible ST, OT, PT services with no out-of-pocket costs • School is usually local to you or may come to a larger coop setup. 	<p>CONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public School involvement. • Services(and progress) may be limited. • Decreased involvement for you. • School Staff may have a different focus in their scope than you need.
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Ways to Get Involved in an ISP

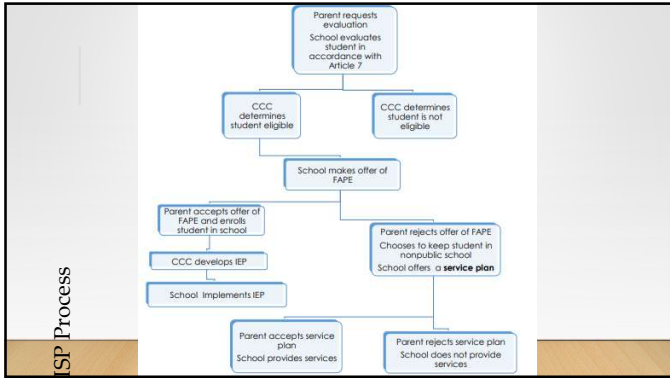
Without being labeled "that" parent.

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Show Up, Be Accessible, Ask Questions!

- If they say yes...
- If they say no...
 - It might just be the policy.
 - It might be their professional boundaries.
 - The requirement for comparable services (not free private services)
- Be bold about interacting in ISPs, collaborate, stick up for your values. You are the Parent!

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Who Can I talk to?

- HSLDA (e.g. when receiving pressure to submit to a Child Find Screening)
- IAHE (They know Indiana and the resources here pretty well ☺)
- DOE (They should be able to direct you to specific law)
- Check out these nifty online resources
 - http://iac.iga.in.gov/iac/iac_title?iact=511 (Check Out Article 7)
 - <https://www.in.gov/doe/files/navigating-course-art-7-revisions-2019.pdf>

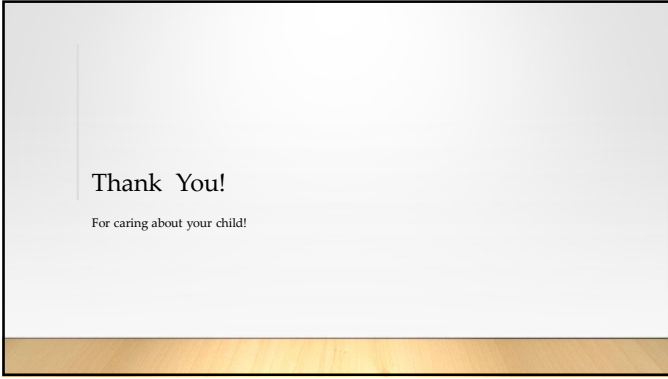
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Questions & How to Find Me

- My website
- In the exhibit hall!

www.illuminatecommunicate.com

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