



Powerful Parenting
CONSULTING
Empowering Parents in the School System



IEP & 504

MASTERY WORKBOOK

A Simple, Powerful Guide to Advocating for Your Child



UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD'S RIGHTS

An IEP (Individualized Education Program) is a legally binding plan under special education law. It includes specialized instruction, goals, and services designed to meet your child's unique needs.

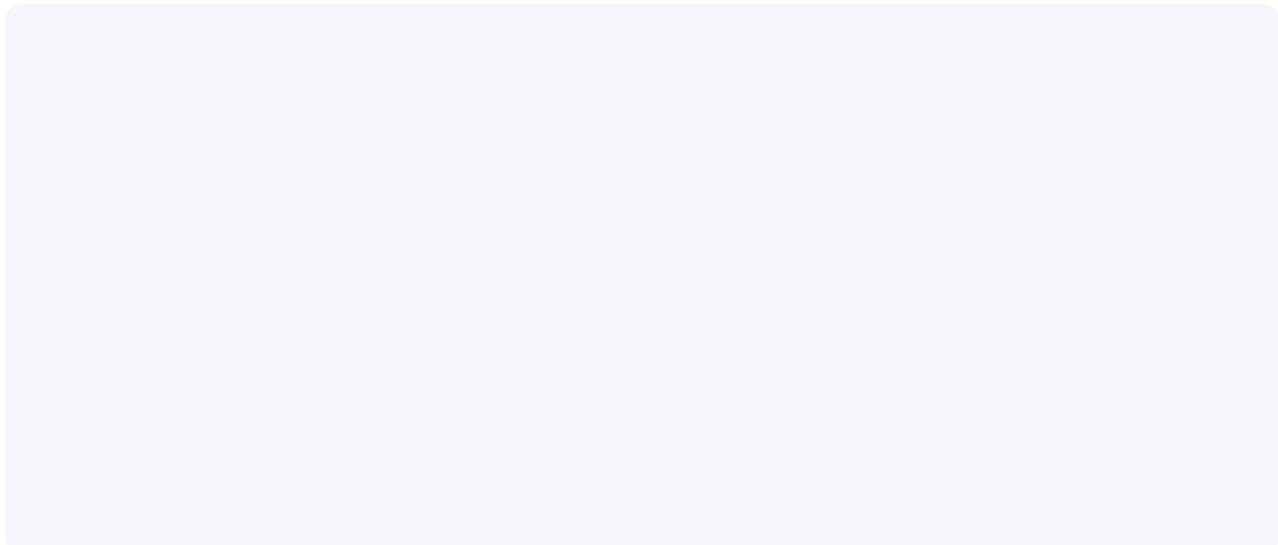
A 504 Plan is a civil rights accommodation plan. It provides access to learning but does not include specialized instruction.

Schools may recommend a 504 because it is easier to implement—but easier does not always mean appropriate.



Power Tip (callout box): If your child needs instruction, not just accommodations, an IEP should be considered.

Reflection Prompt: What challenges is your child experiencing at school?



Step 1: Request an Evaluation (In Writing)

Written requests create documentation and start legal timelines. Verbal conversations do not.

Date: _____

Dear [Principal or Special Education Coordinator],

I am writing to formally request a comprehensive evaluation to determine my child's eligibility for special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

I suspect my child has a disability that is impacting educational performance and am requesting assessments in all areas of suspected need.

Please provide written confirmation of this request and information regarding the next steps in the evaluation process.

Sincerely,[Parent/Guardian Name]



Power Tip: Always submit requests by email and keep a copy for your records.



Step 2: Prepare for Meetings That Matter

Checklist:

- Before the Meeting
- Review your child's current plan
- Identify your top concerns
- Choose 2-3 priority requests
- Bring documentation
- During the Meeting
- Ask how progress will be measured
- Request clarity before agreeing
- After the Meeting
- Request Prior Written Notice
- Follow up in writing

Common Accommodations by Need

ADHD

- Extended time
- Movement breaks
- Reduced distractions

Autism

- Visual schedules
- Sensory supports
- Predictable routines

Dyslexia

- Audiobooks
- Oral testing
- Explicit reading instructionnded time



Power Tip: Accommodations should remove barriers—not lower expectations.



What Schools Won't Tell You

- Silence is often interpreted as agreement. "Progress" does not always mean meaningful growth
- You have the right to disagree—without being difficult
- Documentation is one of your strongest tools

Advocacy Script (boxed):

“

When the school says: "We don't usually do that."
You say: "Can you document that decision within the Prior Written Notice?"

”

Next Steps

You are not alone—and you do not have to navigate this without support.

Continue Your Advocacy Journey:

- IEP Mastery Course – \$297
- 1:1 Parent Advocacy Consulting – \$1,500

www.bosticeducationalgroup.com

FINAL AFFIRMATION

I am informed.

I am prepared.

I advocate with confidence.

I am a Powerful Parent.

