

VIRTUAL IEP CLINIC – PARENT TIPS & RESOURCES

Use this checklist to help you review your child's IEP and to advocate for them during your next IEP meeting.

ADVOCACY SUGGESTIONS

- Keeping records of your communication (including calls, emails and text messages) with District staff is always a good idea.
- Having goals that are SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic & Relevant, Timely) is important. Having SMART goals helps the IEP team stay on the same page and know they are speaking the same language.



POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS AND QUESTIONS TO ASK

POTENTIAL QUESTIONS

- Are there other placement options that might meet my family's needs during COVID?
 - [If I place my child in a private or religious school does she have the right to an IEP and special education services?](#)
 - [Do students enrolled in charter schools have special education rights?](#)
- What data was used to determine present levels? When was this data collected and by whom?
- If there is language in a goal that is not clear to you, do not hesitate to ask questions. If the goal is not clear, how will you be able to measure progress?

POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS

- Assessments can provide both you and the District with helpful information regarding how he learns, additional areas of need and what an appropriate educational program looks like for him. Requesting Independent Educational Evaluations (IEEs) could be a good next step.
- You may find that seeking additional support from consulting a special education attorney is helpful. Be prepared to provide any documentation and records you have. These may include, emails, previous IEPs, notes you have taken during IEP meetings or phone calls with the District.
- You may also want to consider taking your own data during distance learning. What types of support are you providing during the school day? What behaviors are you seeing? How long do they last and what time or during what subject do they occur?

HELPFUL MATERIALS & AVAILABLE RESOURCES

- [Sample Letter - Request for an Independent Educational Evaluation](#)
- [Sample Letter – Request for Records](#)
- [DREDF – Types of Assessments & What they Measure](#)
- [Disability Rights - Special Education Rights and Responsibilities \(SERR\)](#)
- [Bright & Quirky](#)

There are several ways to receive additional support advocating for your child's special education needs. A few are listed below:

- Family Resource Navigators: (510) 547-7322
- [Office of Administrative Hearings List of Low Cost and Free Attorneys & Advocates](#)

We are non-attorney advocates. These materials are only intended to assist you in advocating for your child and do not constitute legal advice.

