

Special Education: 504's and IEPs – What's the Difference and Why Does it Matter?

IDEA - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
- Special Education Law
- Individual Education Program

Section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act of 1973

- Civil Rights Law – 504 Plan

6 Principles of the IDEA



1. Free and Appropriate Public Education in the Least Restrictive Environment (FAPE)
2. Appropriate Evaluation
3. Individualized Education Program
 - Identified in one of the 13 (14) federal disability categories
 - Requires specialized instruction to access education
4. Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)
 - Start with a conversation about what supports and services your child needs to access general education curriculum
 - Children should not have to earn their way into general education much evidence that inclusive environments benefit both child with disability and peers
5. Parent Participation
6. Procedural Safeguards
 - Offered in writing
 - Explained if you request

