

Independent Educational Evaluation

Did You Know?!

A parent can ask for an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) at public expense if they disagree with an evaluation completed by the school district.

Did You Know?!

At public expense means the school district pays for the evaluation.

Did You Know?!

A parent can obtain an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) at their own expense.

What you know about the student is what drives all of the services they need **at this moment** and **for the future**. Having a comprehensive evaluation of the student, by an independent evaluator who is not employed by the school district, can be a crucial ingredient.

The difficulty is that it is expensive and finding a good evaluator, who focuses on the student and not the politics of the school districts they want to work with, can be frustrating to find.

Please understand I am not saying school district evaluations are not enough or not appropriate. In all walks of life, you will find those who are excellent at what they do and you will find those who are not.

I am simply letting you know what a parent can do and has the right to do.

It is all about the student and gathering information to develop the most appropriate program for the student's unique educational, social and emotional needs. If they have all of this then they are receiving their Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).

Step 1: Communicate

A parent needs to communicate with the school district in writing and explain their concerns about the evaluation that was completed. Was it not complete? Do they believe additional assessments are needed? Do they not agree with the eligibility decision? Are they confused about the evaluations and need further explanation(s)?

Step 2: Request

A parent makes a request for an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) in writing. An **example** of an **Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) Request** is available on the www.sealk12.org web site.

Step 3: School District Response

The school district must now respond to the parents request in one (1) of two (2) ways and they must do so within fifteen (15) calendar days of the request.

1. Agree to the request, at public expense, and provide the parent with information about where/who can provide an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) and provide the parent with the school districts policies for an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE).
2. File a Due Process Hearing Request to show the evaluation they performed is appropriate.

Did You Know?!

The school district may ask why a parent objects to their evaluation however, the school district may not require an explanation and may not delay the fifteen (15) calendar day decision.

Did You Know?!

The school district may not require a parent use only an evaluator on their list.

Did You Know?!

The school district must consider the results of an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE), whether at public or private expense however, they are not required to use any of the recommendations.

Did You Know?!

A parent is only entitled to one (1) Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) at public expense per evaluation they disagree with.