



IEP CLARITY CO.

CLARITY FOR PARENTS. CONFIDENCE FOR MEETINGS.

UNDERSTANDING PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

In Simple Terms



Procedural safeguards are your legal rights as a parent. They ensure you can participate in decisions and that your child receives a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).



RIGHT TO INFORMATION

You have the right to receive clear information about your child's special education and related services, including your rights under the law.

- ★ You can ask questions and get copies of documents.



RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE

You are an important member of the IEP team. You have the right to be involved in meetings, decisions, and planning for your child's education.

- ★ Your input must be considered.



RIGHT TO EVALUATIONS

You have the right to request an evaluation of your child if you think they may have a disability or need additional services.

- ★ The school must respond in writing.



RIGHT TO AN IEP

If your child is eligible, you have the right to a written IEP that outlines goals, services, and supports tailored to your child's needs.

- ★ The IEP should be reviewed at least once a year.



RIGHT TO CONFIDENTIALITY

Your child's records are private. Information can only be shared with people who have a legitimate educational interest—or with your written consent.

- ★ You can review and request copies of your child's records.



RIGHT TO PRIOR WRITTEN NOTICE

If the school proposes or refuses to make a change to your child's identification, evaluation, placement, or provision of FAPE, you have the right to notice in writing.

- ★ The notice must explain the action, the reason, and your rights.



RIGHT TO DISAGREE

If you disagree with a decision, you can share your concerns and ask the school to reconsider.

- ★ You can also request mediation or a due process hearing.



RIGHT TO MEDIATION

Mediation is a voluntary meeting with a neutral mediator to help resolve disagreements.

- ★ It's Free and confidential.



RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS HEARING

If disagreements can't be resolved, you have the right to a fair hearing with an impartial hearing officer.

- ★ You may be represented by an attorney, but it's not required.



RIGHT TO FILE A STATE COMPLAINT

You can file a complaint with your state if you believe the school has violated special education laws.

- ★ The state will review the concern.

Remember



- ✔ These rights are yours—use them.
- ✔ You are your child's best advocate.
- ✔ When schools and families work together, children thrive.

