

Kinship Caregiver Special Education Quick Reference Sheet



Kinship Caregiver/Guardian and Student Rights to Participation

- ~ Be a part of all IEP team meetings and decisions
- ~ Accept or reject all or part of the IEP team findings and proposals
- ~ Request or refuse evaluations
- ~ Receive prior written notice of meetings
- ~ Have an interpreter at all IEP meetings and to have all documents translated, as needed
- ~ Observe student and programs
- ~ Be fully informed about their child, including disciplinary action



FEDERATION FOR CHILDREN
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

<https://fcsn.org/>
(617) 236-7210 | (800) 331-0688 (in MA)



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mass.gov/kinship-navigator

Kinship Caregiver/Guardian and Student Quick Reference Guide



Individualized Education Program (IEP)

IEP is a written legal plan that defines the educational program designed to meet the unique needs of a student with a disability.

Definitions

Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)

Free – No cost to parents or guardians

Appropriate – Services sufficient to enable student to make meaningful or effective progress according to his/her potential and toward challenging IEP goals

Public – Provided by public school district or under direction of the public school district

Education – Preschool, elementary and secondary education, including extra-curricular and non-academic school activities

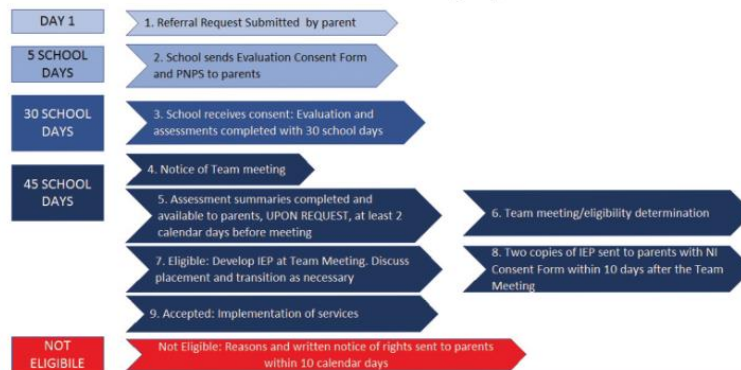
Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)

The student is placed, to the maximum extent appropriate, with students who are not disabled, with use of supports and services as needed.

Effective Progress

Effective progress is documented growth in the acquisition of knowledge and skills, including social/emotional development, within the general education program with or without accommodations according to Chronological age and developmental expectations and the individual educational potential of the child.

Individualized Education Plan (IEP) Process



Other Laws

- Massachusetts Autism Law
- Massachusetts School Bullying Law
- McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- An Act Relative to Students' Access to Education Services and Exclusion from School (Chapter 222, July 2011)

NOTE: The following links are excellent resources for additional information regarding special education

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/>
<https://www.mass.gov/>



Special Education

- Individual with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA) <http://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/IDEA2004/>
- Massachusetts Special Education Law (Chapter 71B) <https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleXII/Chapter71B/section1>

Education

- Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESSA) <http://www.doe.mass.edu/federalgrants/essa/stateplan/>
- Massachusetts Education Reform Act (Chapter 71) <http://www.mass.gov/commissioner/BuildingOnReform.pdf>

Civil Rights

- Section 504 Rehabilitation Act of 1973 <http://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/links/sec504.html>
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/learn-about-the-americans-with-disabilities-act-ada>

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