



**Learning  
Disabilities  
Association  
of Iowa**

# Parent Rights in Special Education

Ages 3-21 Years

A Presentation by the  
Learning Disabilities Association of Iowa

<https://lda-iowa.org>

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## 6 Principles of IDEA

Free Appropriate Public Education-FAPE

Appropriate Evaluation

Individualized Education Program-IEP

Least Restrictive Environment-LRE

Participation in Decision Making

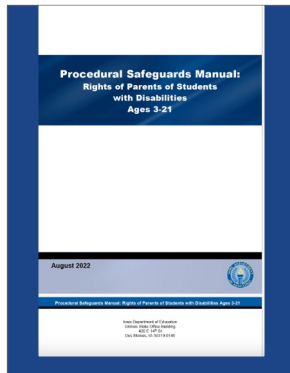
Procedural Safeguards



Learning Disabilities  
Association of Iowa

Source: <https://www.askresource.org/resources/six-principles-of-idea>

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IDEA guarantees parents of children with disabilities certain rights and protections, known as **procedural safeguards** which apply to all aspects of the special education processes.

Source: [https://iowaideainformation.org/special-education/procedural-safeguards/Example Condensed Version](https://iowaideainformation.org/special-education/procedural-safeguards/Example%20Condensed%20Version)

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## Free Appropriate Public Education or FAPE

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Public Expense/Oversight</li><li>*No Extra Cost to Family</li><li>*Meet State Ed Standards</li><li>*Meet Unique Learner Needs</li><li>*Provided Per the IEP</li><li>*Ages 3-21</li><li>*Suspended/Expelled</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Special Education Must:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Designed for Student Progress in Curriculum</li><li>*Ambitious Goals</li><li>*More Than Minimal Benefit</li><li>*Services/Supports/Extra Curricular</li><li>*ESYS If Needed For FAPE</li></ul></li></ul> |
|---|--|

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## Least Restrictive Environment or LRE



*“...to the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, are educated with children who are not disabled.”*

Sources: <https://iowaideainformation.org/resource/special-education-parental-rights-summary/>  
<https://www.askresource.org/resources/least-restrictive-environment>

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## Parent Participation Rights

1. To Provide Information For Your Child’s Evaluation
2. To Be a Member of Any Group That Makes Educational Placement Decisions For Your Child
3. To Participate in Meetings Related to Your Child’s Identification, Evaluation, Educational Placement, and the Provision of FAPE

Sources: <https://www.askresource.org/resources/parent-participation-in-iep-decision-making>  
<https://iowaideainformation.org/special-education/procedural-safeguards/parent-participation-in-iep-processes/>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6mfmcM9ANs>

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## Parent Notice Rights

1. Meetings
2. Proposed Changes or Refusals
3. Age of Majority (18 in Iowa)
4. Right to Receive Notices in Understandable Manner and Language

Sources: <https://iowaideainformation.org/special-education/procedural-safeguards/parent-participation-in-iep-processes/>  
<https://iowaideainformation.org/special-education/procedural-safeguards/prior-written-notice/>  
<https://iowaideainformation.org/special-education/individualized-education-programs/age-specific-components-of-ieps/secondary-transition/>

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## Parent Consent Rights

To Give, Withhold, or Withdraw Consent For:

- Initial Evaluation or Reevaluation
- Initial or Continued Special Education Placement
- Billing Insurance Providers
- Electronic Communication
- Release/Exchange of Information



Source: <https://iowaideainformation.org/special-education/procedural-safeguards/parent-consents/>

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## Parent Rights Regarding Records

- FERPA / Confidentiality
- Parent Right To Access/Review Records
- Parent Right to Ask For Corrections in Records
- Parent Consent to Release or Exchange Records/Information



Source:

<https://iowaideainformation.org/special-education/procedural-safeguards/special-education-records/>

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## Independent Educational Evaluation or IEE

If Parents Disagree With the Evaluation, There are Procedures For Requesting an IEE.



Source:

<https://iowaideainformation.org/special-education/procedural-safeguards/dispute-resolution/>

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## Dispute Resolution Rights

- Mediation
- Due Process Hearing
- State Complaint
- Other Considerations:
  - Disciplinary Proceedings
  - Reimbursement

Source: <https://iowaideainformation.org/special-education/procedural-safeguards/dispute-resolution/>

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