

SPECIAL EDUCATION TIMELINES



As a parent, you are a vital member of your child's IEP Team and your input should always be taken into consideration by the school district. Federal and state law gives parents the right to participate in their children's education, and to play an active role in the development and revision of the IEP. Learn about your rights here: bit.ly/prise2026

KNOW YOUR SPECIAL EDUCATION RIGHTS AS A PARENT IN NEW JERSEY!

If I refuse to sign the IEP because I do not agree with it, when will the proposed IEP will go into effect?

The proposed IEP will go into effect after 15 calendar days have passed.

How long does the school district have to decide if an evaluation will be conducted?

The district must hold a meeting with the parent within 20 calendar days of the referral date to discuss whether an evaluation will be conducted.

When does a child have to be reevaluated?

A child must be reevaluated within 3 years of their most recent evaluation date. A reevaluation may be completed sooner if requested, but the district may deny requests made within 1 year of the last evaluation date.

If I waive the reevaluation, when does the new timeline start?

The next three-year time period for reevaluation begins on the date you provide your written consent to waive the reevaluation. Parents can still request one at a later date.

How long does it take to amend the IEP without a meeting?

The district must provide the parent with a written proposal to amend the IEP. The parent then has 15 days to provide written consent to the amendment.

I requested a due process hearing with the state. What's next?

The district must file the request within 10 days of receiving it. The parent and district must also participate in a resolution meeting within 15 days of the request.

How long does the school have to conduct and complete reevaluations?

The school has a 60-day time period for conducting and completing reevaluations from the date of consent.

How long does the school have to complete the initial evaluations?

The school has 90 calendar days from the date of consent to complete the evaluations. A minimum of 2 evaluations are needed to determine eligibility for special education.

How much time does the school have to provide the parent(s) with a copy of the amended IEP?

The school must provide a copy of the amended IEP within 15 calendar days of the meeting.

When does transition planning begin?

Transition planning in New Jersey must begin at age 14, or younger if appropriate. Starting at age 14, the student must also be invited to attend IEP meetings.

How long does the school district have to provide written notice of any decisions that were made and/or any actions that were proposed or denied?

The school has 15 calendar days after the meeting to provide written notice.

How long does the school district have to respond after you request a change in the evaluation, IEP, eligibility, or placement?

Upon receipt of your request, the school district has 20 calendar days to respond in writing.