

Arc@School

Advocacy Curriculum Modules 5-8



Meeting Norms

- Participation in the group is voluntary.
- All responses are valid—there are no right or wrong answers.
- Please respect the opinions of others even if you don't agree.
- Try to stay on topic; we may need to interrupt so that we can cover all the material.
- Speak as openly as you feel comfortable.
- Avoid sharing detailed information or stories that involve other people, outside of your household.
- Help protect others' privacy by not discussing details outside the group.

Module 5

Procedural Safeguards

What are Procedural Safeguards?



The IDEA includes rights for parents and protections for parents and students

Rights and protections are found in the Procedural Safeguards Notice

The school must provide you with a written explanation of your rights under the IDEA and Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education (MARSE)

Procedural Safeguards

Federal law – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Prior Written Notice (PWN)	34 CFR §300.503
Native Language	34 CFR §300.29
Parental Consent (Informed Consent)	34 CFR §300.9 and 34 CFR §300.300
Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE)	34 CFR §300.502
Confidentiality of Information	34 CFR §300.611
Access Rights	34 CFR §300.612
Mediation	34 CFR §300.506
Filing a State Complaint	34 CFR §300.153
Due Process Complaint	34 CFR §300.507 and 34 CFR §300.508
Parental Rights at Due Process Hearings	34 CFR §300.512
Protections for children not yet eligible for special education services	34 CFR §300.502
Educational Placement	34 CFR §300.533
Private Schools	34 CFR §300.502

Options for Resolving Disagreements



Informal Meeting



Facilitated Meeting



Mediation



State Complaint



Due Process
Complaint/Hearing



**Special Education
Mediation Services**

I-833-KIDS-1ST

Module 6

Section 504

Section 504

Section 504 covers qualified students with disabilities who attend schools receiving federal financial assistance. To be protected under Section 504, a student must be determined to:

- (1) have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; or
- (2) have a record of such an impairment; or
- (3) be regarded as having such an impairment.

Module 7

Educational Records

FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act or FERPA provides certain rights for parents regarding their children's education records.

Module 8

Advocacy Skills

Discussion Groups

Discussion questions as
time allows

- A-ha Moments
- What did you think of the curriculum
- Do you feel more equipped to help others and grow your advocacy?

Organization

Discuss organizational approaches that have been helpful to organize student documentation. How have people in the group done this well? Any suggestions on things to do or not to do?

Section 504

We learned that Section 504 doesn't include as many timelines or required activities as the IDEA. What are some things that a school doesn't necessarily need to do that may surprise families?

Strategies

What are strategies you can use to get the most out of meetings to discuss evaluation results? What if the school and family do not agree on the results of an evaluation?

Advocacy

How do you respond constructively to strong emotions when you are feeling disrespected and not heard?

Testing

Pros and cons of IQ testing was discussed. Any new ideas here? Thoughts?

What are strategies you can use to get the most out of meetings to discuss evaluation results?

We are here to support you!

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For more information visit

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Michigan Alliance for Families

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