

# IEP / 504 Tip Sheet

## WHICH DOES MY CHILD NEED?

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**E.T.C.**  
institute

### IEP

Must have 1 of 13 specific disabilities, outlined in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Must be created by an IEP Team, which includes specific school staff along with parents

Includes special education services (e.g. SPED teachers,) related services (e.g. Transportation, Speech Therapy), and accommodations (e.g. extended time on a test), and gives the child specific goals

Must be reviewed yearly, has strict criteria

### 504

Can be used for any disability that significantly impacts your child's functioning

Can be created by a broader category of school staff, in collaboration with parents

Includes accommodations and modifications (such as extended time on a test, or an adjustment to seating), but does not specify goals that are different from the general education curriculum

Broader category that varies from school to school



# Where do I start?

## IDENTIFY CHALLENGES

Identify what your child is experiencing

Seek professional evaluation if needed

Collaborate with pediatricians & other external providers

Get data from professionals & the school

Educate yourself on academic & developmental norms

**REMEMBER**  
NOT EVERY CHILD WITH A  
DISABILITY QUALIFIES FOR AN IEP  
OR A 504.

**REMEMBER**  
SCHOOLS OFFER VARIOUS KINDS OF  
ACADEMIC, BEHAVIORAL, &  
SOCIAL SUPPORTS

**REMEMBER**  
SHOW YOURSELF CARE &  
COMPASSION AS YOU SUPPORT  
YOUR CHILD!!!

## COLLABORATE & ADVOCATE

Ask questions!

Share information from professionals with the school

Determine what supports are available (IEP, 504, or other)

Advocate for support!

Educate yourself on you & your child's rights

