



GRADUATION



In Nevada there are two diplomas options. Option I is a Standard High School Diploma for students who meet the credit requirements and pass the Nevada Proficiency Exam.

Option II is an Adjusted Diploma for students with disabilities who meet the requirements outlined in the IEP.

Under IDEA, students who receive special education services, and graduate either with an adjusted diploma or a certificate of attendance, are entitled to a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) until aging out (22 years in Nevada) or a Standard High School Diploma is received before reaching the age of 22.



RECORDS



You are entitled to look through and have copies of your educational records so that you may fully participate in meetings where decisions are made about your education program and life.

The school must respond to your written request without unnecessary delay, especially before any IEP meeting and no later than 45 days from the date of your request.



DUE PROCESS



Sometimes you may not agree with the special education services you are receiving. Try to discuss the concerns with your teacher or other school staff. If you still have concerns, calling an IEP meeting would be the next step.

If you are unable to come to an agreement then you have the right to request a due process hearing. A due process hearing is a formal proceeding during which a hearing officer will listen to all the information presented and make a decision.

There are other options available if you disagree. To find out more information about resolving disagreements contact Nevada PEP.



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YOUR RIGHTS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

WHAT A GREAT IDEA!



“A STUDENT’S RIGHTS GUIDE”

**INDIVIDUALS WITH
DISABILITIES
EDUCATION
ACT 2004**

The student's rights guide is designed to help individuals who are 17 years or older understand the special education requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This federal law entitles you to your educational rights.

You can obtain detailed information and a full explanation of your rights by contacting your local school, Nevada PEP, or the Nevada Department of Education.

*Knowledge is Empowerment
Become Empowered*

AGE OF MAJORITY

At least one year before you turn 18 the school must include a statement in your Individualized Education Program (IEP) that your educational rights will transfer to you unless your parents have taken legal steps to make decisions for you. At this time, the school should talk to you about your rights in special education.

It is very important that you know your rights. If you have questions, ask your parents and teachers for help.

PRIOR NOTICE

You must receive a notice in writing within a reasonable amount of time before the school decides to start or change your IEP. This may relate to identification, evaluation, educational placement, or the right to a Free Appropriate Public Education.

This notice must inform you about what the school is suggesting or refusing to do and the reasons. The notice must include what factors or options were considered in the school's decision.

FAPE

Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) means that special education and related services with specially designed instruction are provided to you at no cost.

IDEA ensures that students with disabilities, ages 3 to 22 in Nevada, have the right to FAPE, including students with disabilities who have been suspended or expelled from school or until they earn a regular diploma.

PARTICIPATION

Your role on the IEP team is to help make decisions regarding your education and future. You must be invited to attend any IEP meeting when the purpose is to talk about transition service needs or goals.

IEP

In developing your Individualized Education Program (IEP) you and your team members need to recognize your strengths and weaknesses and how your disability impacts your involvement in general education.

The IEP team includes you, your parents, both regular and special education teachers, a district representative and any other individual with special knowledge or expertise about you, your disability, or your rights.

TRANSITION

Transition services should be about activities which will help you reach your goals after high school. At age 14, or earlier if needed, the IEP must include a statement of transition service needs including the course of study such as a vocational education program or advanced placement classes. The IEP should describe your strengths, preferences and interests.

After consent is given the school should invite to the IEP meeting any agency likely to be responsible for providing or paying for transition services.