

Section 504 Plan, Individualized Education Program (IEP) & Individual Health Plan (IHP)
 A comparison of school Section 504 Plans, Individualized Education Program, and Individual Health Plans can be found in Chart 2.

Comparison of School 504 Plans, IEPs & IHPs			
	Section 504 Plan	Individualized Education Program (IEP)	Individual Health Plan (IHP)
Federal Statute	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 prohibits discrimination based on disability & ensures FAPE for school-age students--US Office for Civil Rights	The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) covers special education for students with disabilities & ensures FAPE to all students--US Department of Education	Scope is based on required nursing care, not educational entitlement
Purpose	Details specific academic, organizational, behavioral, & social accommodations	Details how/where special education programs will be carried out & outlines specific academic, organizational, behavioral, and social accommodations / modifications & services	Addresses student medical needs in the school setting to promote student health, prevent disease, and enhance academic achievement
Eligibility	Has a, or record of, or regarded as having a physical or mental impairment that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substantially limits a public-school's student major life activity (<i>i.e.</i> ability to learn and function in school) 	Has a disability that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meets criteria under IDEA Significantly impacts educational performance Requires specialized services 	Usually includes students who <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are medically fragile Require complex health care support Need frequent or potential emergency contacts Have health care needs addressed on a daily basis
Evaluation	Conduct an evaluation of any student who needs or is believed to need special education or related services because of a disability		Interpret school health records & health status
Consent	OCR interprets informed parent consent for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial evaluation OCR urges parental participation for changes in provisions of FAPE (<i>i.e.</i> location of services) If a parent fails to respond or refuses consent for initial evaluation & district suspects a disability, they may use due process hearing procedures to seek override of the parents' denial of consent.	Requires parent consent for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial evaluation Initial placement Reevaluation (with assessment) If a parent fails to respond or refuses consent for an initial evaluation, LEA may, but is not required to, utilize mediation or request a due process hearing to seek override of the parent's denial of consent.	Medical Release needed for health information to be shared with the school FERPA Release needed for health information to be shared by the school to a provider

Chart 2

The team	Members can vary, but must be knowledgeable about the student Often include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student's legal guardian • Student's general-education teacher • School Section 504 Coordinator • Other applicable members knowledgeable about the student (<i>i.e.</i> speech therapist) 	Multi-disciplinary team members must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student's legal guardian • Student's general-education teacher • Special-education teacher • Other applicable members knowledgeable about the student and/or the evaluation results (<i>i.e.</i> psychologist, speech therapist) 	A licensed registered school nurse or other qualified practitioner Often include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family • Educator • Health care provider
The plan	Blueprint for how a child will have access to learning at school. May include a behavior plan Written document not required, but encouraged that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific academic or behavioral accommodations or services aligned with needs the school will provide • Who will provide the services • Who will make sure plan is implemented and progress monitored 	Blueprint for a child's special education experience at school Written document that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student's classification • Current academic & behavior status • Specific academic & behavioral goals • Specific strategies aligned to goals • Accommodations, services, and curriculum changes / modifications • Timing of each service • Standardized test plan • Transition plan for high school and beyond 	Written document that identifies medical needs of the student at school, school nurse services, & how those needs will be met to achieve specific student outcomes/goals. Typically does not include non-health related services or accommodations May be attached to students 504 Plan or IEP May include an Emergency or Safety Plan
Revisions & Re-Evaluation	Plan review & re-evaluation regulations do not set a time frame, but requires schools to conduct reevaluations periodically, and before a significant change in placement	Plan review required every year & re-evaluation at least every 3 years	Evaluation recommended at least yearly to determine needed revision & evidence of desired student outcomes. Frequently updated as changes in medical condition & needs occur
Dispute Resolution	Options include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal negotiation • Mediation • District Grievance Procedures • Impartial hearing • Equity Assistance Center (EAC) complaint • Office for Civil Rights (OCR) complaint • Civil lawsuit 	Steps include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal negotiation • Mediation / facilitation • Due process hearing • Civil lawsuit & appeals • Formal state or federal complaint 	Options include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School meeting • District Grievance Procedures
Funding	No additional funding to districts & IEP funds cannot be used on Section 504 Plans	Funding to districts from the federal government for each student with an IEP	No additional funding to districts
	Section 504 Plan	Individualized Education Program (IEP)	Individual Health Plan (IHP)

Chart 2 (cont.)