

RESOLVING CONCERNS WITH A CHILD'S SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Disagreements can happen during collaborations involving the development of a child's Individualized Education Program. In the event parents disagree with the child's school on any issue involving its special education program, parents should share their concerns with the school, listen to the school's response and work together to find a resolution.

Parents have the right to request an Individualized Education Program review at any time. Concerns should be discussed with the school and a mutually agreeable solution found when possible. If a meeting can not resolve concerns in a satisfactory manner, a facilitated IEP meeting is another option.

The facilitated Individualized Education Program meeting includes an impartial facilitator who is not a member of the IEP team. The facilitator's job is to keep the team focused on developing the child's program, promote communication among team members, clarify points of agreement and disagreement and address other concerns as they arise.

If those methods prove unfruitful, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act provides more formal options to resolve concerns:

- **Mediation:** dispute resolution without litigation through the assistance of a neutral third party
- **Due process:** written complaint typically required to be filed within two years of the issue in dispute; the complaint may lead to an impartial due-process hearing if the parties are not able to resolve the issue satisfactorily



- **State complaint:** written complaint claiming a school district violated a requirement of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Your installation's Exceptional Family Member Program office can provide additional resources and support in resolving concerns with a child's special education services.

Contact your installation's legal office for additional resources and support related to special education law and special education disputes.



For additional assistance, including specialty consultations, planning tools, non-medical counseling and more, call or visit <https://www.militaryonesource.mil> | 800-342-9647



EFMP Exceptional Family Member Program