

IEP vs. 504 Plan

IEP

- To qualify, a student must have a disability that adversely affects educational performance.
- Includes Specially Designed Instruction (SDI).
- Can also include related services, accommodations, and modifications.
- Eligible students must fit one of the IDEA eligibility categories.
 - Administered under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which ensures a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) for students with disabilities.
 - For students ages 5-21.

504 Plan

- To qualify, a student must have a disability that substantially limits one or more major life activity.
 - Includes accommodations only.
 - School districts are required to evaluate a student's eligibility for a 504 Plan and can not consider the improvement of a disability caused by a mitigating factor, such as hearing aids, medication, mobility devices, etc.
 - Administered under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, prohibiting discrimination against individuals with disabilities.
 - No age limit.

- Support plans for students with disabilities.
- Legally protected documents.
- Provided at no cost to families