



Current and Ongoing Special Education Rights

There are a lot of changes going on at the U.S. Department of Education right now. **Your child's right to an education has not changed.** Here are answers to questions we are hearing from parents and families in Illinois right now.

What is the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA)?

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (called IDEA) is a federal law. It makes sure children with disabilities get the special education and support they need at school. This can include small class sizes, aides, special and modified instruction, behavior supports and help like speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and social work services.

What does the U.S. Department of Education do for special education?

The department does not run schools or school districts. It gives states and school districts money for special education. It also helps schools and states know how to follow the law and watches to make sure the laws are followed.

Have changes to the U.S. Department of Education changed my child's special education rights?

No. So far, no changes made to the Department of Education have changed your child's special education legal rights under the IDEA. All children still have the right to go to school and get a free appropriate education.

Have More Questions?

Call our Special Education Rights Parent Helpline.

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