

FACILITATED INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS (FIEP):

A Facilitated IEP Program is a student focused process designed to help the IEP team overcome the pressures and challenges of a potentially contentious meeting. The facilitator makes no educational decisions regarding the student or the IEP.

The facilitator's primary goal is to assist team members in the thoughtful, productive construction of a quality IEP. The facilitator's role is to:

- Keep the meeting focused on the student;
- Ensure everyone at the table has a voice;
- Encourage active listening by all participants; and
- Keep the group from getting stuck on just one aspect of the IEP.

A facilitated IEP meeting provides an opportunity for early conflict prevention and resolution and is available to District of Columbia Schools, Public Charter Schools, Private Schools with D.C. Public Students, Parents of children with disabilities and Adult students with disabilities.

REQUESTING A FACILITATED MEETING:

The school, the parent or the adult student may request to have a trained, impartial professional facilitator attend the IEP meeting. The facilitator's role will be to help members of the IEP team remain focused on student issues and goals while addressing conflicts and disagreements that may arise during the meeting.

CONTACT:

D.C. PARENT TRAINING
AND INFORMATION CENTER
TO HAVE A FACILITATOR FOR YOUR NEXT
IEP MEETING
WWW.AJE-DC.ORG
202-678-8060 PHONE

CHANGE ALWAYS
COMES BEARING GIFTS.

~PRICE PRITCHETT



BENEFITS OF A FACILITATED IEP?

- Builds and improves relationships among the IEP team members.
- Ensures that the meeting is student-focused.
- Improves communication among IEP team members by modeling effective communication and listening skills.
- Clarifies points of agreement and disagreement.
- Provides opportunities for team members to resolve conflicts.
- Encourages parents and professionals to identify new options to address unresolved problems.
- Typically less stressful than formal complaint proceedings.
- Supports better IEP implementation by establishing roles and responsibilities for follow-up action.
- Roles and responsibilities can be discussed and planned.
- Takes place during the IEP meeting and does not require a separate meeting to formalize agreements reached in the IEP facilitation.
- Supports full engagement and participation by all parties.