



All About Independent Education Evaluations

An Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) is a private evaluation by someone not working for the school that did your child's first evaluation. Parents can request an IEE to receive another opinion about their child's educational needs, especially if they disagree with the school's evaluation.

Who conducts an IEE?

An IEE is conducted by a professional not employed by the school that conducted the original evaluation. While schools may provide a list of approved evaluators, parents can choose the evaluator if they meet the minimum qualifications. Additionally, an IEE must meet the same standards as a school evaluation. This includes ensuring that the evaluator's credentials and the evaluation location are comparable to the school's standards. The school is **required** to inform you about these standards. Apart from these requirements, the school cannot impose additional conditions or deadlines.

What areas does an IEE assess?

IEEs are not limited to evaluating a student's cognitive, academic, and social-emotional areas. It may evaluate any skill related to the student's specific educational needs, such as sensory needs, behavior, neurological functioning, etc.

Do I have to pay for an IEE?

It depends. The school is obligated to fund the initial IEE **or** defend its evaluation through due process. Additionally, if the school funds the initial IEE, the school does not have to fund subsequent IEE evaluations.

What's the process for obtaining an IEE?

Parents must formally notify the school in writing if they disagree with the school's evaluation and request an IEE. The school is then obligated to fund the IEE or file a due process complaint defending its evaluation. To learn how to request an IEE, look at this [article](#).

What are the potential outcomes of obtaining an IEE?

Once the IEE is completed, the school is required to consider its results. Though they are not required to accept the results, schools typically do. At the very least, IEEs open the discussion for potential special education services. At the very best, this could lead to revised accommodations or overturning the school's decisions.

In summary, IEEs provide parents with an avenue to seek alternative assessments of their child's educational needs when they disagree with the school's evaluation. These evaluations, conducted

by professionals independent of the school, cover a wide range of educational domains and can influence decisions regarding accommodations and special education services. IEEs can empower parents to actively participate in the educational decision-making process and ensure the best outcomes for their kiddos.

If you would like to request an IEE, check out this [article!](#) Additionally, if you would like more information or have questions about IEEs, reach out to hello@loveyourschool.org! We want to hear from you!

More Resources:

[Independent Educational Evaluations: What? Why? How? Who Pays? - Whright's Law](#)

[Sec. 300.502 Independent Educational Evaluation - IDEA](#)

[Private evaluations: What you need to know - Understood.Org](#)

[Private vs. school evaluations: Pros and cons - Understood.Org](#)

[FAQs: Independent Educational Evaluation - Arizona Department of Education](#)

[Disagree with a school evaluation? An IEE is a great tool. - Law Office of Richard J Murphy](#)