The IDEA Manual: Highlights of Revised 2016 Edition

A publication of The Arc of Texas and Disability Rights Texas

What is the IDEA Manual?

The IDEA Manual is a parent-friendly guide to special education in Texas. Specific to Texas because of state laws, agencies and practice. Produced by advocacy organizations:

Arc of Texas
Disability Rights Texas

• Words to Know Section – *Added or Updated Words*
  • Adult Student
  • Assessment
  • Due Process Hearing, Prior Written Notice and Procedural Safeguards
  • IEP Facilitation
  • Pre-Employment Transition Services
  • Orientation and Mobility Services
  • Response to Intervention
  • Ten-Day Recess
  • Transition Services

• Laws, Rules and Regulations Section – *Updated*
  • Every Student Succeeds Act

• Parent’s Guide to the Special Education Process Section – *Updated*
  • 6 Steps
    • Referral
    • Notice of Rights
    • Full and Individual Evaluation
    • ARD Meeting
    • IEP
    • After the Meeting

• Referral Step Section – *Updated*
  • State timelines for Full and Individual Initial Evaluations

• Notice of Rights and Consent Step Section – *Updated*
  • TEA Notice of Procedural Safeguards
  • TEA Guide to ARD Process

• Full and Individual Initial Evaluation Step Section – *Updated*
  • State timelines for Full and Individual Initial Evaluations
  • Eligibility for Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) Services
  • Students’ Rights During Evaluation
  • What to Do if Think School’s Evaluation Wrong

• ARD Meeting Section – *Updated*
  • IEP Facilitation
  • Translation of IEP
    • Written or audio
  • Adult Students
    • Alternatives to guardianship
  • ARD Committee Members
    • Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors
• Form 9: ARD Committee Meeting Agenda
  • Translated or Audio Recording of IEP
• Form 10: ARD Meeting Parent Checklist
  • Request for Interpreter

• IEP Section – Updated
  • Annual Goals
    • Peer-reviewed research definition
  • Statewide Assessments
    • STAAR-Alt 2
    • Accommodations for students with dyslexia
  • Transition Services
    • State versus federal transition planning requirements
• Post-graduation community-based services
  • Medicaid waiver services
• High School Diploma Options
  • New Foundation diploma and endorsements

• IEP Section – *Updated*
  • Bullying
    • Definition in Texas Education Code
  • Placement in Least Restrictive Environment
    • Charter schools
    • Video monitoring of self-contained special education classrooms
• Coming to mutual agreement
  • Signing IEP
  • Ten-day recess
  • TEA facilitated IEP program

• Resolving Disagreements Section – *Updated*
  • Facilitated IEP process
  • Texas special education information center
  • TEA contact information for state complaints and mediations
  • OCR contact information for Section 504 complaints
  • Expedited Due Process Hearings

• Texas Special Education Resources Section – *Updated*
  • State agencies
    • Sunset legislation during 84th Legislature
  • Texas disability organizations
    • Updated list

• Getting a Copy of the IDEA Manual, 2016 Edition
  • DRTx website
    • www.disabilityrightstx.org
  • Arc of Texas website
    • www.thearcoftexas.org
    • https://www.thearcoftexas.org/idea-manual/
  • Versions in languages other than English planned but not yet available