

## Comparison of Section 504 Plan and Individualized Education Program (IEP)

Section 504 Plan	Individualized Education Program (IEP)
<p><b>Eligibility:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Qualified individual with a disability</li> <li>• Section 504 defines an individual with a disability as:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more life activities; or</li> <li>• Has a record of such an impairment; or</li> <li>• Is regarded as having such an impairment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Eligibility:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MARSE defines 13 disability categories</li> </ul>
<p><b>Evaluation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual circumstances determine evaluation data needed</li> <li>• No timeline for completion of evaluation process</li> <li>• Parental permission for initial evaluations</li> <li>• Section 504 Plan not required to be in writing (suggested it is in writing to document accommodations, supports, and services being provided)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Evaluation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires a full, comprehensive (initial) evaluation completed by a Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MET)</li> <li>• MET makes a recommendation regarding eligibility</li> <li>• IEP team, including the parent, makes the determination of eligibility or ineligibility for special education and related services</li> <li>• Evaluation process from parental consent to evaluate to offer of a FAPE or determination of ineligibility must be within 30 school days</li> <li>• IEP must be a written document</li> </ul>
<p><b>Review:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires "periodic" review</li> </ul>	<p><b>Review:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual review required</li> <li>• Requires reevaluation at least once every three years (or as warranted or requested)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education that is comparable to the education provided to students who are not disabled</li> </ul>	<p><b>Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education designed to meet the child's unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment, and independent living</li> </ul>
<p><b>Funding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specialized instruction, related services, and accommodations paid for by local school district</li> </ul>	<p><b>Funding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special education and related services paid for through funding under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)</li> </ul>