

## Legal Process

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- Federal Law directs schools to focus on helping all children learn by addressing problems early. Response to Intervention is an approach that many schools use for identifying and helping children who are at risk for not meeting grade level standards.
- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act is the federal law that governs the special education process. One of the main purposes is to ensure that children with disabilities have available to them a free public education.



Jones ISD  
Anywhere, State, USA

212.234.5678  
[jones@jonesisd.edu](mailto:jones@jonesisd.edu)



# A GUIDE TO SPECIAL EDUCATION

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By Caroline Hunt

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## Rights of Parents

- Parents have the opportunity to participate in any decision-making meeting regarding their child's special education program
- Parents have the right to participate in individualized education program meetings about the special education eligibility assessment, educational and placement of their child and other matters relating to their child's free appropriate public education

## (ARD) Admission Review Dismissal Meeting

- Requires special educators, principals, teachers, teachers aids, parents of the student that need to be in the meeting
- Talk about the goals and objectives, the direction of services, the progress measured, the assessments and the annual review.

## (IEP) Individual Education Plan Meeting

- Requires special education administrator, special education teacher and parent
- Talk about child's present levels of academic and functional performance
- A description of the special education related services that will be provided
- Information on how your child will participate in state and district assessments

## (ECI) Early Childhood Intervention Meeting

- Requires special education teacher, early intervention specialist, speech and language pathologist, therapist and parents
- Talk about services needed and support for the student at home, and at school.
- Discuss goals to meet the needs of the student

## (IFSP) Individual Family Serves Plan Meeting

- Requires special administrator and parents
- Discuss the delays, the goals and services that they need
- Discuss input and observations
- Transition planning is discussed

