

Statement of Services in the IEP

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires your child's individualized education program (IEP) to contain a statement of services to be provided to your child by the school. This statement should be written clearly so that the school's commitment of resources is apparent to all members of the Admission, Review and Dismissal (ARD) committee, which includes you (parent or guardian of the child). When developing this statement of services, the ARD committee should consider the question: What services and supports does this child need in order to achieve his or her annual IEP goals?

What does IDEA say?

According to [IDEA, Sec. 300.320 \(a\)\(7\)](#), each child's IEP must contain "the projected date for the beginning of the services and modifications... and the anticipated frequency, location, and duration of those services and modifications."

Breakdown of this IEP Requirement

When determining the dates, frequency, location, and duration of IEP services, inclusion in the general education setting must be considered first for every child with a disability before considering a more restrictive environment.

The ARD committee uses data from the present levels of academic and functional performance (PLAAFP) to make decisions about each requirement. How often and how long IEP services will be provided impacts the level of progress your child can be expected to make towards achieving their annual goals.

Date of service Initiation

What does this mean?

The date that the special education and related services identified in your child's IEP begin.

Tip for success

- Services should begin as soon as possible. [IDEA, Sec. 300.323\(c\)\(2\)](#)




Resources for Families


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Frequency

What does this mean?

The number of times per week the special education and related services will be provided to your child.

Tip for success

- The frequency of services should provide enough opportunities for your child to learn and practice the target skill(s).

Duration

What does this mean?

The length of time for each session of services to be provided to your child, often represented in minutes.

Tips for success

- The duration of services should be sufficient to help your child achieve their annual goals, taking into consideration their attention span related to their age and disability.
- Duration should be based on your child's needs, not on the availability of services.

Location

What does this mean?

The place where the services will be provided to your child.

Tips for success

- Determine the location of services only after all of the other IEP components have been determined.
- Services must be provided in the least restrictive environment (LRE) determined by the ARD committee. Your child must be educated in the general education classroom with their non-disabled peers to the maximum extent appropriate. They should not be removed from the general education classroom unless learning cannot be achieved, even with the use of supplementary aids and services.



The contents of this publication were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, #H328M200041, #H328M200042, #H328M200043, #H328M200044. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.