Special Education: What You Need to Know

You are a critical member of your child's IEP team because you know your child best! Your involvement and participation is essential for success.

Every step you take should have your child's adult life in mind. Special education services should help your child be prepared for adulthood: further education, employment, and independent living!

Your child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) is based on their unique strengths and needs. The IEP describes what your child's school district will provide so they receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).

Share information about your child, ask questions, and stay involved. Prepare parent input and create a one-page profile for every IEP meeting. Take notes and follow up. Stay solution-oriented and have a game plan. You can do this!

Special education is a service, not a place. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) says kids with disabilities should be educated alongside kids without disabilities to the maximum extent appropriate.

An IEP is developed with a step-by-step process. Remember to build a strong foundation in Special Factors and Present Levels to get the Goals, Services, and Placement appropriate for your child! Placement comes last!

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

FACT Oregon is here for you! Our parent-led staff have been there, done that. Our support line is available to help answer your questions, and equip you with the information and skills you need as your child's best advocate.

Questions? Call 503-786-6082 or email support@factoregon.org

Additional resources available at factoregon.org
What are **YOUR** next steps?

- [ ] Read your child's IEP
- [ ] Write a parent input statement
- [ ] Talk with your child! What do they want to do?
- [ ] Create a one-page profile
- [ ] Meet with your child's teacher

Questions I'm leaving with: