



SECTION 504 PLANS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Health issues, disabilities, and other issues can make it hard for children to learn or follow rules at school. A school can create a plan for children who need extra help due to a disability. They call these plans **Section 504 Plans**. The plan might say that your child can get extra time to take tests, receive special equipment to help see or hear, or receive other types of help.

How do I get my child a Section 504 Plan?

Ask the school for a Section 504 Plan if you think that your child has a disability. State the reason why you are making the request. Ask in person and write the school a letter or email. Put the date on the letter or email. Keep a copy of your letter or email.

The school must do a free **Educational Evaluation** of your child if your child has a disability. The school will talk with you and your child to learn why your child is having trouble learning or behaving.

After the educational evaluation, the school must create and follow a Section 504 plan if your child has a disability. Schools provide a different plan called an **IEP** for students with certain **Learning Disabilities**. Your child does not need to have a learning disability to get a Section 504 plan.

Our guide on [Special Education and IEPs for Children with Learning Disabilities](#) provides more information on IEPs.

What if the school says that my child does not need a Section 504 plan or an IEP?

Talk to an education lawyer for advice. Parents and caregivers living on low incomes might find free legal help at Atlanta Legal Aid Society (404-524-5811) or Georgia Legal Services Program (800-498-9469).