

# Initial IEP Meetings:

## A Parent / Guardian's Guide to Success

### Video Transcript

[Start of transcript]

Host: "Hello, everyone! Today, we're focusing on annual IEP meetings. These meetings are a vital part of ensuring that your child's educational plan continues to meet their needs."

Host: "An annual IEP meeting is a review process where the IEP team comes together once per year to evaluate the child's progress and update their Individualized Education Program. It ensures that the educational strategies and supports remain effective and aligned with the student's evolving needs."

Host: "The primary purpose of the annual IEP meeting is to assess the student's progress toward their current goals and to set new, measurable goals for the upcoming year. The team will review the entire document going over present levels of achievement, accommodations, modification, services minutes, just to name a few. It provides an opportunity for parents or guardians and teachers to discuss any challenges and celebrate successes."

Host: "The meeting is attended by the same dedicated team from your initial IEP meeting, including parents or guardians, special and general education teachers and or your child's case manager, someone from the school who can assign resources, and other specialists as needed. This collaborative approach ensures all aspects of your child's growth are considered."

Host: "During the meeting, you'll review your child's current progress, discuss what strategies worked well, and identify areas needing adjustment. The team will also consider any additional support or services that might be necessary to help your child achieve their goals."

Host: "After the meeting, the updated IEP will be finalized and distributed to all team members who have a role in implementing the program. This document guides the educational support your child will receive. If new goals are set, teachers and support staff will start implementing the necessary changes by abiding by the start date on the updated IEP."

Host: "As a parent or guardian, your role is crucial. You're encouraged to share insights about your child's history, experiences and progress outside of school, ask questions, and advocate for their needs. Your input ensures the IEP is comprehensive and tailored to your child's unique situation."

Host: "If you have any questions, whether before, during, or after the meeting, reach out to your child's IEP team. They're there to support you and ensure you understand every aspect of your child's educational plan."

Host: "Annual IEP meetings are an opportunity to reflect on progress and refocus efforts for the future. By staying engaged and informed, you're playing a vital role in your child's educational journey. Thanks for watching!"

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