

Evaluations:

A Parent / Guardian's Guide to Success

Video Transcript

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Host: "Hello, everyone! Today, we're diving into the world of special education evaluations, a key component in identifying the best ways to support your child's learning needs. We'll cover what these evaluations entail and what you, as parents, can expect throughout the process."

Host: "Evaluations are typically conducted by a team of qualified professionals, which may include school psychologists, special education teachers, speech and language therapists, and other specialists. Each team member brings expertise relevant to assessing different aspects of your child's development."

Host: "Special education evaluations are usually conducted every three years to reassess the child's needs and progress and to determine whether your child still requires services. Evaluations following the initial evaluation are often referred to as re-evaluations and they still follow the same timelines as the initial evaluation. However, if there are significant changes in your child's performance or needs, an evaluation may be requested sooner."

Host: "The main purpose of these evaluations is to gather detailed information about your child's strengths and areas of need. This information guides the development of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) tailored to support your child's unique educational journey."

Host: "As parents or guardians, your role is crucial. You'll be asked to provide insights about your child's behavior, interests, and challenges at home. You may receive forms to complete or have someone ask questions. Expect to participate in meetings to discuss evaluation results and collaborate with the school team in planning the next steps for your child's education."

Host: "After you give consent for an evaluation, the school typically has 30 school days to complete it and share the results with you. Once the evaluation is complete, you'll attend a meeting to review the findings and decide on the appropriate educational plan, which may include an IEP if your child is eligible. If your child is eligible, you must provide signed permission for the IEP before the school can start providing services."

Host: "Navigating the evaluation process can be a significant step in ensuring your child receives the support they need. Remember, you're an essential advocate for your child, and the school team is here to partner with you. Together, we can make informed decisions to help your child achieve their potential. Thank you for watching!"

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