

■ Being a Part of Decisions

- Every day you should be learning to make decisions about things that affect you and your life.
- You should be talking to the people involved in your life about the things you want to do.
- You need to know who can help you reach your goals.
- It is important that you take part in your IEP; it is also your right. After all, it is written for you.
- When you know your preferences and interests, you can help make decisions.
- You should know about the things that make it easier for you to learn (your accommodations).
- You should learn and practice problem solving.



■ More Information

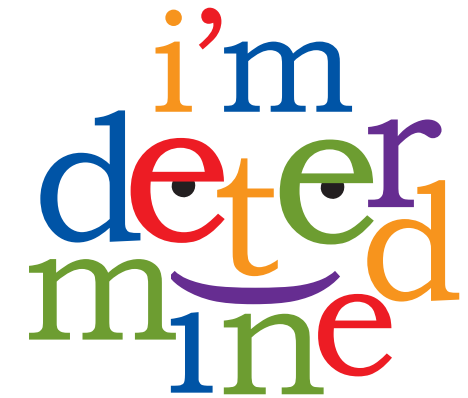
- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act is a federal law that gives students with disabilities the right to a free appropriate public education.
- The Virginia Department of Education details your rights for you and your parents in a document titled “Your Family’s Special Education Rights-Virginia Procedural Safeguards Notice.” A copy of this document can be found on the Virginia Department of Education Web site

(http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/regulations/state/procedural_safeguards/english_procedural_safeguards.pdf)



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What Are My Rights As A Student With A Disability?

A Self-Determination Project

You have the right to...

■ Free Appropriate Public Education

- Appropriate means your IEP is designed for you to benefit from your education program and reach your goals.

■ Appropriate Evaluation

- An evaluation is a way of checking what you know. Evaluations may include:
 - ✓ a test or quiz in your class;
 - ✓ the Standards of Learning tests;
 - ✓ the special tests you take for eligibility and IEP updates; and/or
 - ✓ transition assessment.
- You can have accommodations on these evaluations. The IEP Team will help you decide what you need.

■ Individualized Education Program (IEP)

- An IEP is a written plan to help you make progress toward your goals.
- It is a program for you, your parents and your teachers to follow.
- Your IEP is very important so you should be a big part of helping to make plans and goals.
- Your IEP will include information about:
 - ✓ your strengths and likes;
 - ✓ your challenges and dislikes;
 - ✓ your classroom performance;
 - ✓ your accommodations; and
 - ✓ your goals now and in the future.
- People who can help create your IEP:
 - ✓ YOU!
 - ✓ your parents;
 - ✓ your teachers and others within your school; and
 - ✓ representatives from agencies.

■ Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)

- You have the right to be in the learning environment in which you will be successful.
- Your learning environment gives you an opportunity to be with students who do not have disabilities.
- Your learning environment may change based on your needs in different subject areas.
- You have the right to learn in the least restrictive environment. You and your IEP Team decide what LRE means for you.

