

ASPIRE



Organizing Topic: IEP Participation

Title: The IEP Meeting: Get Ready, Set, Go

Target Level: Grade 6

Time Frame: 90-120 minutes

Objective:

- The student will prepare to present information about himself at the IEP meeting.
- The student will practice presentation skills.
- The student will critique the presentations of other students and offer constructive suggestions for improvement.
- The student will perform appropriate follow up activities after the IEP meeting is held.

Materials Needed:

- Copy of each student's IEP.
- Supplies needed for creating invitations and thank you notes: paper, markers or colored pencils, envelopes, scrapbooking supplies, etc.
- Access to computers with word processing software for creating electronic versions of correspondence (invitations, thank you notes, etc.) which could be printed out or emailed.
- IEP Meeting Brochure.

Adapted from Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Education Training and Technical Assistance Centers – I'm Determined Project. 2010 ASPIRE Student Led IEP initiative is funded by the Georgia State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG), Georgia Department of Education through a grant from the Office of Special Education Programs, United States Department of Education and is a collaboration with the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Lesson Procedure

Instructions:

Activity 1:

Steps:

1. Student talks with the special education/general education teacher(s) about time, date, and place for the IEP meeting.
2. A list of the people who should be invited to attend the meeting is compiled.
3. Invitations are prepared and sent to everyone on the student's list.
4. Student should prepare thank-you cards to send to participants after the meeting has occurred.

Instructions: Teacher should begin talking with students about the importance of beginning to think about what they want to say during the IEP meeting. Student should consider how to:

- describe his/her disability
- talk about strengths and needs
- describe personal learning style
- tell team members the accommodations needed and why
- discuss any medications prescribed and/or medical needs
- list the educational goals and objectives/benchmarks to be considered for the IEP

Activity 2:

Steps:

1. Have each student choose one of the areas in the discussion that they can practice talking about in the IEP meeting.
 - Students will begin practicing for their upcoming IEP meeting.
2. Model the activity. The teacher should role play with the student (while the student plays the part of the teacher) talking about the chosen area. Switch roles and allow the student to talk about the things they have chosen for the IEP meeting.
 - Tailor the role playing to individual student capability.
3. Each student should fill out the IEP Meeting Brochure to reflect what they will do.

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Instructions: Discuss with the students that they will begin practicing participating in the IEP meeting.

Activity 3:

Steps:

1. Put students into teams of two.
2. Call up one team at a time and have them role play how they would respond to/ or discuss one of the areas listed below. Other scenerios can be added as appropriate. You can make the topics more specific to the students or use ideas from the IEP Meeting Brochure.
 - A proposal is made that the student disagrees with.
 - A statement is made that hurts or angers the student.
 - The student does not want a particular accommodation.
 - The student wants a particular accommodation.
4. Have the class discuss how each situation was handled. Discuss:
 - What was good?
 - What could have been done better?
 - What else could be said?

Option: After the meeting, consider the following activities:

- Students can share their experience with their classmates.
- Prepare thank you notes for those who attended.
- Student can assess how they felt they did in the meeting.
- The student can monitor how they are doing on their IEP goals and objectives throughout the school year.

Activity Sheet: IEP Meeting Brochure

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Why is it important for you to participate in your IEP meeting?

- The meeting is about you.
- You make decisions that affect your education and your life.
- The meeting gives you a chance to practice social, advocacy and communication skills that you will need in the future.
- Being a part of developing your goals helps you to reach your goals.

Web sites

www.imdetermined.org
www.youthhood.org
www.iidc.indiana.edu/cedir/kidsweb



My plan for participating in my IEP:

Before the meeting:

During the meeting:

After the meeting:

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Important information for students

ASPIRE



SUGGESTIONS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE IEP PROCESS



Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
"Making Education Work for All Georgians"

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Before the Meeting

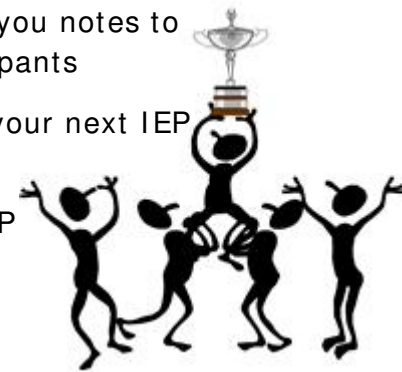
- Learn about IEP meetings, their purpose and how to participate
- Suggest people to invite to your meeting
- Participate in the activities
- Make a list of your strengths, challenges, likes, dislikes and interests
- Take an interest inventory or vocational assessment
- Write or assist with writing part of the IEP
- Role-play ways to participate and what to say
- Ask for accommodations and equipment you need to participate in your meeting
- Create an invitation or welcome sign
- Prepare a PowerPoint about yourself or a portfolio

During the Meeting

- Attend the meeting
- Introduce members of the IEP team
- Share samples of your work from your classes
- Present specific information for your IEP (PLOP, accommodations, etc.)
- Share ideas about what works well for you
- Present your PowerPoint or portfolio
- Review previous IEP goals and talk about your progress
- Lead the discussion about your transition plan (your future)
- Recommend new IEP goals and accommodations
- Lead the IEP meeting
- Sign your IEP

After the Meeting

- Complete an exit survey about your experience at the meeting
- Share your experience about participating with others
- Discuss the highlights of the meeting with your teachers
- Discuss your disability, IEP and accommodations with your teachers and others who can help
- Participate in the IEP updates and help evaluate your progress on your goals
- Send thank-you notes to meeting participants
- Prepare for your next IEP meeting
- Sign your IEP



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