

Special Education

The following questions are helpful conversation starters when considering special education services.

- Do I suspect that my student has a disability that may make my student eligible for an Individual Education Plan?
- Have I requested the school evaluate my child for a disability? Was this request orally or in writing?
- Do I have documentation of my request for the evaluation of my student?
- Do I have the dates of all of the meetings? Am I prepared to attend?
- Do I need an advocate present in the meeting?
- Have I read and kept a copy of all of the paperwork I have received and/or signed?
- Have I provided the school with all of the requested information?
- Am I aware that my student's school could be changed if the school cannot accommodate my student's disability?
- What am I not asking that I should be?

Ask yourself

Ask your teacher

- What data have you already collected to determine my student needs more intensive support?
- Do you understand that I have requested for my student to be evaluated for a disability that negatively impacts my child's ability to learn?
- Have you documented my request?
- What can I expect next?
- Who will contact me and who can I contact if I have questions about this process?
- What is the reasonable amount of time that I can receive the **informed consent** request form, the **prior written notice** of testing, and the **procedural safeguards**?
- Is there more information you need from me?
- Are there disabilities that you are unable to accommodate in this environment?
- What am I not asking that I should be?

For more information, visit

<https://sboe.dc.gov/node/1153932>.



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