

IEP Meeting Participants

IEP Teams for each child with a disability must include:

(1) Parent(s)/ Guardian is defined as either:

- A biological or adoptive parent
- A foster parent (unless state or local law otherwise limit this authority)
- A guardian (other than the state) authorized to act on the child's behalf
- An individual acting in the place of the biological or adoptive parent & with whom the child resides
- A surrogate parent

(23 Illinois Administrative Code 226.75)

(2) General Education Teacher(s)

A general education teacher who is or may be responsible for implementing a portion of the IEP (23 Illinois Administrative Code 226.210)

(3) Special Education Teacher(s)

The special education teacher provides individualized instruction to the student and reports student progress. If the child is receiving only speech and language services, the speech and language pathologist shall fulfill the role of the special education teacher. (34 CFR 300.321)

(4) Administrator or Designee

An individual who has the authority to commit district resources and the ability to ensure that the services identified in the IEP will be implemented. (23 Illinois Administrative Code 226.210)

(5) Related Service Personnel

- Related service personnel **may** include: psychologist, social worker, speech/language pathologist, occupational therapist, physical therapist, vocational evaluator, STEP Coordinator, service agency personnel.
- Individuals identified to complete an assessment in order to present and interpret their data (34 CFR 34.321)

(6) Other individuals at the invitation of the parents or school district

The parent(s)/guardian(s) may invite other individuals to attend an IEP conference. At the discretion of the local district, others may be included if they have legitimate interest in the education of the student and/or specific diagnostic information that will assist in the educational planning. It is very important, however, that the number of participants remain small enough to facilitate an efficient IEP conference.

*A team member (who was listed on the Parent/Guardian Notification of Conference, ISBE 34-57 D) may be excused from an IEP meeting **if** the parent and LEA Representative agree in writing, prior to the meeting (Parent/Guardian Excusal of IEP Team Member, ISBE 34-57 H), **and** the member's area of curriculum is not being modified or discussed in the meeting.

*If the member's area of expertise is being discussed, he/she may be excused **if** both the parent and LEA agree in writing, **and** the member submits, in writing to the team, input into the development of the IEP prior to the meeting. (Parent/Guardian Excusal of IEP Team Member, ISBE 34-57 H)

(7) Student- When appropriate, or if the student is 14 or older he/she must be invited to attend.