

IEP

Law: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Eligibility: One or more of the 13 qualifying disabilities under IDEA

Sets learning goals and outlines the services the school will provide

Individualized special education, unique to the student's needs

Written document using a standard plan. Assessments required.

VS.

504 Plan

Law: Section 504 under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Eligibility: Any disability that interferes in the general education classroom

Specific accommodations and services in the general education classroom

Provides equal access to the general education curriculum

Written document not required. No standard plan. Assessments not required.

Both are:

- Legally binding**
- Provided at no cost**
- Working to meet the student's needs**