

Purpose

The goal of the facilitated IEP meeting is to help IEP team members communicate effectively and develop an educational program to meet the child's need.

Facilitated meetings may be helpful for any IEP team, and may be particularly helpful when:

- There is a lot of new information to be processed;
- Team members would like to create better understanding;
- Team members want help staying focused on an agenda; or
- There is a particular disagreement that the team wants to make progress on.

Benefits

Benefits of a facilitated IEP meeting include:

- Assistance in the development of a mutually agreed-upon IEP and other team decisions.
- The chance for team members to develop and keep good working relationships.
- Building the foundation for on-going communication and collaboration between the family and the school through out the year.
- The service is offered **at no cost** as a service of the local community mediation center.
- Having someone who is not an advocate for the parent or school system assist in the communication.

Details

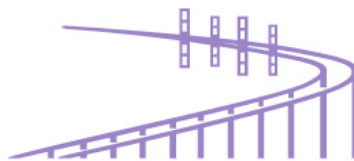
For more information please view the online FAQ at:

www.MarylandPublicSchools.org/msde/divisions/earlyinterv/complaint_investigation

Then click on:

"Facilitated IEP Team Meetings in Maryland, An introduction and Frequently Asked Questions for Parents and Public Agency/School Personnel"

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Independent IEP Meeting Facilitation



A free service of
Maryland's local
Community
Mediation
Centers



What does an Independent IEP Facilitator do?

An Independent IEP Facilitator:

- ☑ Talks to the parents and the IEP Chair in advance to support the development of an agenda.
- ☑ Helps make sure that everyone has a chance to speak and be heard at an IEP meeting.
- ☑ Keeps the discussion focused.
- ☑ Helps the team to resolve disagreements.
- ☑ Uses communication skills to help IEP team members work together to develop an appropriate IEP and make other decisions about the IEP student's program.

Who are the Independent Facilitators?

The Independent Facilitators:

- ☑ Are highly trained volunteers from local community mediation centers.
- ☑ Are not members of the team and do not have a relationship with the school or the parent.
- ☑ Focus on the process, while the team members make all the decisions.
- ☑ Remains neutral and will not place blame, take sides, or make recommend actions.

Availability of Services

Independent IEP Facilitation is currently being offered in certain school districts.
For more information, contact the program listed below for your county.
Please note that at least 10 days of lead time are requested in order to provide facilitators.
We will do our best to accommodate requests made with less lead time.

Anne Arundel County

Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center
410-266-9033

Baltimore City

Baltimore Community Mediation Center
410-467-9165

Baltimore County

Conflict Resolution Center of Baltimore County
410-780-1206

Calvert County

Community Mediation Center of Calvert County
443-295-7456

Carroll County

Carroll County Community Mediation
410-848-1764

Cecil County

Community Mediation Upper Shore
443-207-5159

Dorchester County

Mid Shore Community Mediation Center
410-820-5553

Harford County

Harford County Community Mediation Program
410-638-4807

Howard County

Baltimore Community Mediation Center
410-467-9165

Frederick County

Community Mediation Maryland
301-270-9700

Montgomery County

Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County
301-652-0717

Prince George's County

Key Bridge Center for Conflict Resolution
240-770-0401

Queen Anne's County

Community Mediation Upper Shore
410-810-9188

St. Mary's County

Community Mediation Center of St. Mary's County
301-475-9118

