

Student-Led Individualized Education Plans (IEP)

Things to Know

- Students can attend their IEP meetings as early as kindergarten.
- Students must be invited to their IEP meetings at age 14.
- Students may attend all or part of the meeting.
- The length of the IEP meeting does not differ between student-led IEPs and teacher-directed meetings.
- Active involvement is crucial for transitioning into adulthood.

Immediate Benefits for Students

- Students feel more in control of their educational experiences.
- Students have an opportunity to convey their skills and limitations to the IEP team.
- Students can provide valuable input on their strengths and needs to inform IEP goals, accommodations, supports, and services.
- Students develop increased accountability for their educational progress.
- Students develop self-awareness and self-advocacy skills.

Short- and Long-Term Benefits of Student-Led IEPs

- A student's presence personalizes the IEP process for all team members.
- Student-led IEP meetings foster participation, engagement, and communication.
- Students learn self-determination and self-advocacy skills.
- Students who lead their own IEP meetings experience:
 - Higher rates of graduation
 - Lower rates of behavior concerns
 - Increased likelihood of being employed or enrolled in higher education compared to students who do not participate in their IEP meetings.