

What is an Eligibility Meeting?

An eligibility meeting will occur after a full and individualized evaluation of a child's needs has been conducted and after the referral meeting. It will be conducted with a full IEP Team (an LEA representative, a regular education and a special education teacher, an individual who can interpret the implications of evaluation results, the parent(s), and the child, when appropriate). At this meeting, the IEP Team will determine if the child has a disability and needs specially designed instruction. (NC 1503-2.7)

Meeting Overview:

- The results of the screenings/evaluations will be shared.
- The IEP Team will discuss the following information for all potential areas of eligibility:
 - The child's needs affecting his/her education and
 - Any evidence of a need for specially designed instruction.
- A determination will be made as to whether the child is eligible for special education.

What Happens Next?

- If the child is NOT found to have a disability, the special education process ceases.
- If the child IS found to have a disability that requires specially designed instruction, the IEP Team will develop an IEP for the child.
 - The parent will need to sign a Consent for Services document giving permission for the child to receive services proposed in the IEP (NC 1500-2.5).

What Can Parents Do to Prepare for the Meeting?

As a parent and member of the IEP Team, you can provide valuable information regarding your child. Here are some questions that could be asked during the meeting.

- How are the physical, academic, and/or behavioral challenges that your child is facing impacting his/her education?
- Does your child meet criteria for a disability?
- Does the disability have an adverse effect on educational performance?
- Does the disability require specially designed instruction?
- Has your child received appropriate instruction in reading and math?
- Is your child Limited English Proficient?

Disabilities Recognized by NC (NC 1500-2.4)

- Autism (AU)
- Deaf Blindness (DB)
- Deafness (D)
- Developmental Delay (DD)
- Emotional Disability (ED)
- Hearing Impairment (HI)
- Intellectual Disability (ID)
- Multiple Disabilities (MU)
- Orthopedic Impairment (OI)
- Other Health Impaired (OHI)
- Specific Learning Disability (SLD)
- Speech or Language Impairment (SI)
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- Visual Impairment (VI)

More Information?

See the *Parent Rights and Responsibilities in Special Education* for more information (ec.ncpublicschools.gov/parent-resources/ecparenthandbook.pdf).