



The Ins and Outs of Getting an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) for Your Child



Legal Requirements

- The IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) and Hawaii Chapter 60 (Hawaii's Special Education law) have safeguards that allow for a parent/guardian to request for an IEE at public expense.
- Once an IEE is requested, the DOE must either:
 1. File a due process complaint if they feel their evaluations are appropriate, or
 2. Provide parents with info on how to obtain an IEE at public expense.



When CAN a Parent Request an IEE

- If they disagree with a DOE evaluation or one or more of the assessments, for example, a Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA)
- After the DOE has completed their evaluation
- If the school did not assess in a specific area
- If they disagreed with an assessment and paid for a private evaluation and are now requesting reimbursement



When IEE is NOT Allowed

- If no DOE evaluation was completed (because parent revokes consent or the evaluation is still in progress)
- If the DOE determines an evaluation is not needed (If parent disagrees, they can file a state complaint, go through mediation or file due process)
- If a Due Process Hearing Officer determines the DOE evaluation was appropriate
- If you are seeking a medical diagnosis.



Requesting an IEE

- Request must be submitted to the child's home school (either verbally or in writing).
- Within 10 calendar days, the school must provide a Prior Written Notice (PWN) to either
 1. Approve the IEE, or
 2. Deny the request and file for due process
- If parent wants a specific evaluator, they must provide the name and contact information to the school.



IEE Evaluation Criteria

- The evaluator must be qualified and licensed, like DOE staff.
- An evaluator must first be sought within the school district or island where the child lives.
- The evaluator must meet the same criteria used by the school for its evaluations.
- A copy of the IEE report must be provided to the school and the parent at least 5 calendar days before the IEP meeting.
- Schools may select the evaluator a parent recommends, but they are not required to do so.

- The IEE report must provide the IEP team with information to help determine eligibility, if the child has a disability that requires special education and related services, and to identify their strengths and needs.
- If you have questions about requesting an IEE, contact your school principal or the District Educational Specialist (DES) for your school district.