



DISPUTE RESOLUTION FACILITATION QUICK GUIDE



FACILITATION IS...

An optional service offered by the State Department of Education used to ensure that IEP teams follow processes and procedures as outlined in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Student-centered * An early resolution option
Free to parents and districts * Voluntary * Includes the full IEP team

WHAT A FACILITATOR DOES...

The facilitator, who acts as a neutral, impartial third party, leads the IEP team meeting and:

- Works with both parties to develop an agenda for the IEP meeting.
- Establishes IEP meeting norms.
- Makes sure all voices are heard.
- Ensures that IDEA processes are followed.
- Supports IEP teams with effective and efficient:
 - Problem-solving
 - Communication
 - Decisions that are
 - Student-focused
 - Legally defensible

BENEFITS

- Results in IEP team decisions that benefit the student by ensuring that those who know the child best are given the opportunity to be heard and participate in the process.
- Maintains or improves relationships.
- Resolves issues more quickly than other dispute resolution options.
- Increases the IEP team's confidence in knowing they are following IDEA processes and procedures.

TO LEARN MORE OR TO REQUEST FACILITATION

Visit the [Dispute Resolution Webpage](#) on the [Idaho State Department of Education](#)'s website
Call: (208) 332-6912 or (208) 332-6914
Email: disputeresolution@sde.idaho.gov