

*Alaska Special Education Mediation Services
Assisting Parents and Districts Across Alaska
with Resolving Disputes and Improving
Communication*

Why Use Mediation?

Resolves disagreements concerning the identification, evaluation, or the provision of an appropriate program or educational placement of a child with a disability.

Clarifies the issues which are causing the disagreement.

Provides the opportunity for all parties to present their points of view.

Stimulates mutual problem solving efforts and communication.

Promotes positive relationships between the parties.

Helps parents, infant learning and school staff to focus on what they have in common, the child, rather than on the issues that divide them.

The parties control the outcome.

Alaska Special Education Mediation Services



"Resolving Differences Between
Parents and Districts through
Mediation"

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Offered By:

The Alaska Department of Education and
Early Development
Office of Special Education
907-465-2824

and

Department of Health and Social Services
Maternal Child and Family Health
907-465-3103



**Providing Mediations and IEP Facilitations
Across Alaska**

*When All the Doors Seem
Locked
Alaska Special Education
Mediation
Could Be*

"The Key"



Alaska Special Education Mediation Services

Providing Special Education Mediations and IEP Facilitations



To Parents and Districts Across Alaska

We Use Mediation:

when parents, schools, or ILP staff don't agree about a child's special education program or placement.

when parents feel the school or agency personnel are not listening to them.

when the school or ILP staff feel the parents don't understand what they are providing for their son/daughter.

when parents, schools, and ILP seek a way to resolve conflicts and improve communication.

when parents, schools and ILP want an agreement resulting from a mutual understanding.

Alaska Special Education Mediation Services could be the "KEY"

Mediation Is:

intended to resolve conflicts regarding the child's special education program

a process that uses trained mediators to guide the participants toward a mutually satisfactory solution.

requested by the child's parent, school district or infant learning program

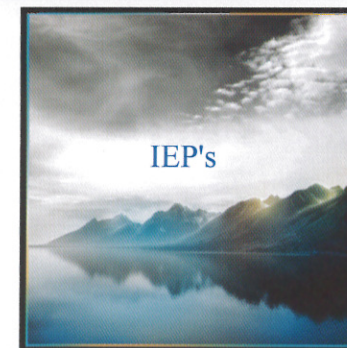
less formal than a due process hearing

at no cost to either party

confidential-all discussions that occur in mediation are confidential and cannot be used in any further proceedings.

an alternative that may occur prior to or concurrent with a request for a due process hearing or administrative complaint.

encouraged by IDEA to resolve disputes.



IEP Facilitations

Alaska Special Education Mediation Services provide IEP Facilitations to both districts and parents.

If a parent and/or a district feel that a facilitated IEP would help both come to an agreement then either party could request ASEMS to facilitate the IEP process.

Both parties must agree to the facilitation.

ASEMS facilitates the meeting and assists the parties in the communication process.

ASEMS does not determine if the IEP is appropriate but rather that all components of the IEP are completed

There is no cost to either party for this service.

Toll Free

1-800-580-2209