
How do I get an IEP or 504 Plan?

- ◆ Contact the school. It is best to do this before the start of each school year.
- ◆ Ask that your child be evaluated under the IDEA or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.
- ◆ The school will ask the Pediatric Pulmonary clinic to send a letter documenting the child's disability (CF). The school will hold a team meeting with the family to make an IEP or 504 plan.
- ◆ The plan says what the school will need to do to meet the child's needs.
- ◆ Decisions about accommodations and modifications are made together by parents, ESE staff, basic or career and technical education teachers, and students 14 and older .



Important Things to Remember

- ◆ Typical accommodations for CF include:
 - ◆ Having the nurse administer enzymes and/or provide nutritional supplements
 - ◆ Unlimited restroom privileges
 - ◆ Excused CF-related absences
 - ◆ Help making up missed school work or exams
- ◆ The 504 plan (or IEP) **must** be in place before the child misses school or receives any type of accommodation.



Resources

The CF Foundation:
(800) FIGHT CF or info@cff.org

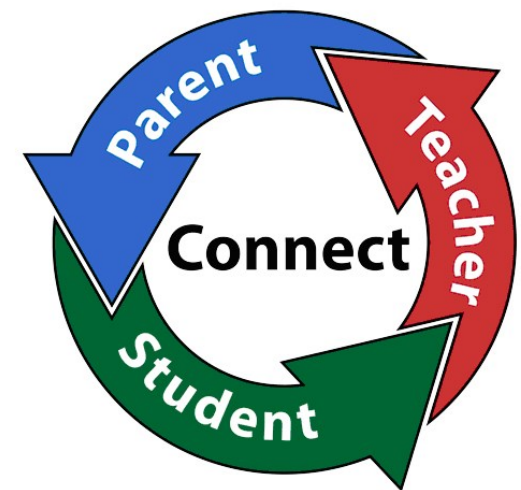
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): **(800) 514-0301** or www.usdoj.gov/disabilities.htm

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities: www.nichcy.org

Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights (PACER): **(800) 537-2237** or www.pacer.org



CF & School: What Parents Should Know



What can be done to help students with CF in school?

Sending your son or daughter off to school, especially for the first time, can be a scary experience, especially if your child has a chronic illness like CF. Thankfully, there are laws and policies in place to make sure they have everything need in order to be successful.

IDEA & Section 504

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a national law that requires schools to provide services to students with disabilities from birth through age 21. Through the IDEA, children may qualify for an IEP or Individualized Education Plan.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires schools to provide accommodations to students with disabilities. This resulted in the creation of what are known as 504 Plans.

IEPs vs. 504 Plans

IEPs

In order to qualify for an IEP, a student's disability must affect the child's educational performance and/or ability to learn and benefit from the general curriculum.

In CF, extended absences can interfere with a child's ability to learn.

If a child qualifies for an IEP, he or she can be granted accommodations and/or modifications in the classroom.

504 Plans

To qualify for a 504 plan, a student's disability must impair their ability to function in major life activities.

Examples of conditions that meet this requirement are chronic illnesses such as asthma and conditions such as ADD. CF will often fall under this category.

If a child is approved for a 504 plan, he or she can receive accommodations to assist with learning.

Accommodations vs. Modifications

Accommodations

Accommodations change how a student learns and ways they can demonstrate what they have learned. In other words, how they are instructed and assessed.

What they are expected to learn and achieve *do not* change.

Modifications

Modifications change what students are expected to learn and demonstrate.

This often results in these students receiving what is known as a "special diploma" rather than the traditional "standard diploma".

