Disability Guide for Career and Technology Teachers

Educating Students with Disabilities

What should the teacher do if the student is not making progress toward achieving competencies identified in the Individualized Education Program or has increasing behavioral problems?

The career and technology teacher should promptly contact the counselor or student services representative and the student’s special education teacher at the local school district for assistance and support.

Career and technology education personnel can request an IEP team meeting at any time to address any issue concerning the student’s education.

The technology center or career and technology education department and the local school district must also work together to address behavioral problems through the IEP team process.

Should the career and technology teacher attend his or her students’ IEP meetings?

Yes. A technology teacher representative should attend every IEP team meeting at which the student’s career and technology education program is to be discussed. Because career and technology education is a regular education environment, it is appropriate for the career and technology teacher to attend the IEP meeting as a regular education teacher.

If unable to attend the meeting, the career and technology teacher should provide input in advance so that the team can fully discuss career and technology education issues.

A regular education teacher of a child with a disability must attend each IEP team meeting if the child is or may be participating in the regular education environment. Any regular education teacher who serves as a member of the student’s IEP team should be responsible for implementing a portion of the student’s IEP. The teacher should be prepared to discuss how he or she provides instruction and conducts the course in which the student is or may be enrolled and how the teacher handles behavior issues. The teacher should also be able to discuss how the student may participate successfully in the course.

It is appropriate for several regular education teachers to attend an IEP team meeting if their participation benefits the student’s success in school. However, if the student has more than one regular education teacher who is responsible for implementing a portion of the IEP, the local school district or technology center can designate which teacher(s) will serve as the regular education teacher member(s) of the IEP team.
The IEP team should meet before the student enters the career and technology education program. The team should review the student’s current IEP and amend it to reflect appropriate information concerning the student’s career and technology education enrollment. If necessary, a new IEP may be written.

The IEP must include the specific course for which the student will receive credit. The team may also include goals and objectives or benchmarks relevant to the student’s participation in a particular career and technology education course, appropriate positive behavioral interventions and strategies for the student, supplementary aids and services, accommodations and supports for school personnel that will be provided for the student. The specific items included in the IEP depend upon the student’s individual needs.

According to the Standards for Accreditation of Oklahoma Schools, the IEP team must also document the specific competencies for the student’s career and technology education program that address the sets of competencies required for the course.

If the student’s career and technology teacher does not attend the IEP meeting at which the team changes part of the student’s career and technology education program, how will the teacher know what to do differently?

All career and technology education personnel responsible for implementing a portion of the student’s IEP must have access to the IEP and be promptly informed of their specific responsibilities. They must also know the specific accommodations and supports that must be provided to the student in accordance with the IEP. Each technology center or career and technology education teacher who implements a portion of a student’s IEP should have a copy of the IEP and safeguard its confidentiality.

When the career and technology teacher cannot attend the student’s IEP team meeting, another career and technology education representative should attend. That representative can provide the teacher a copy of the new or amended IEP to review and explain the teacher’s specific responsibilities under the IEP.

The student’s special education teacher at the local school district can also provide that information to the career and technology teacher.

If the career and technology teacher does not attend the student’s IEP team meeting, when should the teacher review the student’s IEP?

The Standards for Accreditation of Oklahoma Schools require that the career and technology teacher have access to a copy of the IEP before the student enters the career and technology education program.

The teacher should also receive updated information promptly after each change in the IEP.

For more assistance and information regarding postsecondary education for students with disabilities, contact the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education disabilities services specialist at 405-743-5596.

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