



IEP Tip Sheet

What are Supplementary Aids & Services?

This tip sheet introduces and briefly defines supplementary aids and services that promote access to and progress in general education programming and provides tips for implementation. To learn more, review the additional resources and check with state law for supplemental requirements. This is one of four tip sheets in a collection of the statement of services and aids in the individualized education program (IEP; [Sec. 300.320\(a\)\(4\)](#)). The overview tip sheet provides a summary of the complete statement.

What Does IDEA Say?

According to IDEA [Sec. 300.42](#),

“Supplementary aids and services means aids, services, and other supports that are provided in regular education classes, other education-related settings, and in extracurricular and nonacademic settings, to enable children with disabilities to be educated with nondisabled children to the maximum extent appropriate in accordance with §§300.114 through 300.116.”

Let's Break It Down

Where?

- Regular education classes
- Other education-related settings
- In extracurricular and nonacademic settings


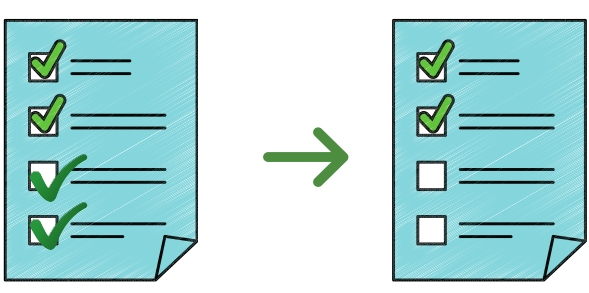


What?

- Aids
- Services
- Other supports

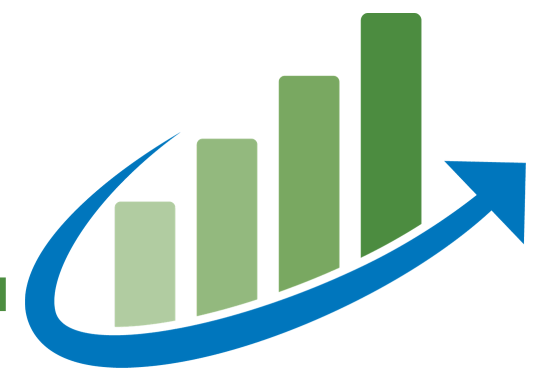
Why?

To enable children with disabilities to be educated with nondisabled children

Common Types and Examples

Types	Definition	Examples
 Instructional Accommodations	Changes to the delivery of classroom instruction or the accompanying materials; they do not change what students learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Books on tape, large print, or highlighted notes • Access to assistive technology • Special seat • Adapted cup for drinking • Extended time or frequent breaks
 Modifications	Change to what a student will be expected to learn or what a test is expected to measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete different problems than peers • Answer different test questions • Learn different content • Not required to complete similar materials as peers
 Testing Accommodations	Changes to the format of a test or its administration procedures but not what a test measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having test read aloud • Extended time • Permitting scribes or dictation • Testing in a small-group setting • Providing a test in large print
 Other aids and services	Other types of direct services and supports to the student based on the unique needs of the student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthcare assistant for a student with significant health needs • Peer tutors • Assistive technology services • One-on-one aide

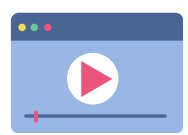




Tips for Identification and Implementation

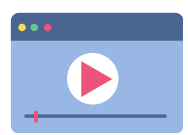
- ✓ Ensure selection is justified in the present levels statement and aligned with the unique needs of students, not their disability category.
- ✓ Consider aids and services for supporting both academic and functional needs.
- ✓ Consider accommodations before selecting modifications; the latter generally promotes lower expectations.
- ✓ Consider aids and services that may be needed in extracurricular and other education and nonacademic settings necessary to promote access and opportunities with peers.
- ✓ Identify additional supports needed to promote effective use of selected aids and services.
- ✓ Align testing and instructional accommodations to ensure that students have opportunities to use them successfully in the classroom before they are used on an assessment.

Where Can You Learn More?



Accommodations: Instructional and Testing Supports for Students with Disabilities

(IRIS Center). This interactive module aims to increase knowledge of instructional and testing accommodations for students with disabilities.



Online Training to Improve Accommodations Decision Making

(National Center for Education Outcomes). This training includes case-based video clips and five interactive, multimedia professional development modules to help educators select, administer, and evaluate the use of accommodations.



Common Accommodations and Modifications in School

(Understood.org). This resource provides a bulleted list of common presentation, response, setting, timing, scheduling, and organizational skills accommodations and assignment and curriculum modifications.



Modifications: What You Need to Know (Understood.org) This brief defines modifications, describes how they differ from accommodations, and provides a summary of pros and cons that educators and parents should consider when selecting modifications for inclusion in the IEP.



PROGRESS Center Website. The PROGRESS website includes additional information about developing high-quality IEPs and additional tip sheets in this series.