

Preparing Students for Understanding Their Rights

- Students should understand their disability and be able to advocate for themselves.
- Students should understand why they receive special education services.
- Students should receive written and oral notification of meetings.
- Students should be notified of changes in placement with explanations on why those changes occurred. This notification should be in the communication mode best suited to each individual student.
- Students should participate and assist in the direction of the IEP meetings.
- Students should receive explanations on the type and purpose of evaluations.
- Students should be involved in the interpretation of test results.
- Students should be given the opportunity to review their educational records.
- Students should know their rights under the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Students should participate in self-advocacy and self-determination training.
- Students, their parents and teachers should meet prior to the student's 18th birthday to discuss specific rights and their implications of those rights in the educational process.

From What's Working in Transition (1998) Univ. of Minnesota