

DCARRLAW PRESENTS: FEDERAL LAWS INFOGRAPHIC

The following is a comparison of the federal laws that exist to protect the rights of individuals with disabilities. This guide is only for educational purposes and you are encouraged to speak with a licensed legal professional to determine how each law applies to specific circumstances, if applicable.



INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA)

Education law requiring schools to provide needed special education and related services to children with disabilities

SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT (504)

Civil rights law prohibiting schools receiving federal funding from discriminating individuals for disability related reasons

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

Civil rights law with a broadened compliance for agencies and businesses to be accessible to and non-discriminatory of individuals with disabilities

HIGHLIGHTS

Guarantees a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE) for kids with disabilities



Procedural safeguards such as informed consent, access to education records, right to appeal, and timeline requirements for certain actions, to protect the rights of students with disabilities (and their parents)



Freedom from discrimination at federally funded private schools (inclusive of colleges and universities)



Provides legal rights for people with disabilities, including possible accommodations



**INDIVIDUALS WITH
DISABILITIES EDUCATION
ACT (IDEA)**

**SECTION 504 OF THE
REHABILITATION ACT (504)**

**AMERICANS WITH
DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)**

Provides special education and related services to meet the individual needs of students that exist because of their disability (e.g.: speech and language therapy)



Due process guaranteed for disputes arising and resolving between parents and schools



Ensures services received by students remain in place during resolution of IEP disputes between parents and schools ("Stay Put" Provision)



Requires schools to give written notice prior to making any changes to a student's services



Provides schools education funding and requires public schools to identify and evaluate kids who may have a designated disability at no cost to parents



Mandates an Individualized Education Plan/Program is formulated for eligible students (IEP)



Ensures freedom from employment discrimination in workplaces with greater than 15 employees

