



Course Overview

This course will help you to understand the purpose of the IEP, its significance in IDEA, and compliance with the law.

The Individualized Education Program, or IEP, is a cornerstone of the Individuals with Disabilities Act, IDEA, the federal law that protects students ages 3-21 from being denied a free and appropriate education. An IEP is a legal and binding document, and must be followed by all school personnel. There are many essential parts included in the IEP that, when implemented and continuously monitored, should have positive impact on a student's educational performance. It is important to treat the IEP as a relevant and living document-it is not just a formality to be checked and signed; but rather, an agreement between all IEP team members on a unique program of services and related supports for a student that best meets his or her individual academic and/or behavior needs.

Goals & Purpose: This course focuses on the process of an IEP.

Session 1 – Introduction

This session serves as an introduction to the course.

Session 2 – The Individualized Educational Program: Purpose and Process

This session features a high-level description of each part of the IEP process, including a 10 step list.

Session 3 – Individualized Education Program Development and Team Members

This session contains information about which representatives must be active participants in the writing and development of the IEP and the key areas of the IEP that must be addressed.

Session 4 – Course Wrap-Up and Certificate

This session is a conclusion to the course.

Throughout the course, opportunities are provided for you to connect your learning across sessions and to explicitly consider the implications of your learning for your classroom practice. You will also be able to revisit your work and reflections by viewing your individual Course Portfolios.