

A short explanation of the IEP process from the Ohio Dept. of Education Scholarship Staff

Students must have a current, agreed-upon IEP to receive an award for the Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship programs. The writing of the IEP is the responsibility of the public school district and must offer a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to the student. The district is required to write the IEP offering special education and related services as if the student were in attendance in the public district. Once an IEP is completed, a parent must sign indicating their agreement with the IEP. A parent has a right to not agree with the IEP; however, a student is not eligible for the scholarships until the IEP is agreed upon and signed. Services will not be funded by the scholarships if there is a lapse in the IEP.

Students participating in the scholarship will have their IEP updated by their district of residence annually. When updating the IEP, the district relies on the detailed progress reports created by the scholarship providers for current progress information.

Once the IEP has been developed by the district, a parent in collaboration with a registered provider can request additional educational services that are not listed on the IEP by completing a Request to Modify Services Form. This does not amend the IEP but allows the purchase of additional services through the scholarship. The form is obtainable from www.education.ohio.gov/jonpeterson, www.education.ohio.gov/autism, or from the online application system under User Manuals & Forms.