

IN

BRIEF

INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLANS: helping students achieve success

WHY develop an individualized education plan?

An individualized education plan is a plan of activities coordinated jointly by the people involved. Its purpose is to help a student who, because of a handicap or difficulties, needs adapted intervention in order to progress optimally in developing the competencies required for success. An individualized education plan is part of a dynamic support process that takes place for the benefit and with the participation of the student. It is based on a systemic view of the student's situation, and is implemented using a solution-centred approach.

WHAT ORIENTATIONS should guide us in developing an individualized education plan?

- Seeing success in a differentiated way
- Placing students at the centre of their own success
- Adopting a systemic view of the student's situation
- Focusing on the student's strengths and the school's resources
- Strengthening school-family-community cooperation

WHEN should an individualized education plan be established?

- The student's complex situation is such that a more sustained and coordinated **effort** is required on the part of the student, teacher(s), parents, principal and, in some cases, other players inside or outside the school, to find solutions to the difficulties encountered and thus enable the student to progress.
- The student's situation calls for the **introduction of specialized resources** or for **certain adjustments** (teaching strategies, adapted materials, specific resources, etc.) in addition to the actions normally taken by the teacher, in cooperation with the cycle team, to adjust his or her actions to the student's needs.
- The student's situation requires **certain decisions** that will have an impact on the student's educational path, such as decisions concerning adjustments to evaluation methods, departures from the Basic School Regulation or special orientations regarding the student's educational path or placement.

WHO participates in an individualized education plan?

Creating a true educational community around the student

- The student
- The parents
- The teacher
- The school staff
- The staff of complementary educational services and of other service networks, where appropriate

Reach for
your Dreams



PHASES OF THE INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLAN

These phases are interdependent and are part of a dynamic, ongoing process to support students. They encompass all the actions to be considered in the individualized education plan.

HOW?



DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

- Read through the student's prior records.
- Examine the student's recent work.
- Consult the student, parents, school staff and any other people concerned.
- Perform evaluations where necessary.
- Consider the effectiveness of the various interventions, especially with regard to differentiated teaching.
- Examine and interpret all available information on the student's situation.

PLANNING OF INTERVENTIONS

- Pool all information on the student's situation (strengths, difficulties, etc.).
- Reach a consensus on prioritizing the student's needs.
- Establish objectives.
- Determine means: strategies, resources, time frame.
- Record the information.

APPLICATION OF THE INTERVENTIONS

- Inform everyone concerned.
- Implement and monitor the various methods.
- Evaluate the student's progress on a continuous basis.
- Adjust the interventions to suit the student's situation and development.
- Maintain communications with the parents.

REVIEW OF THE PLAN

Review and evaluate the individualized education plan, maintaining or altering some or all of its elements in relation to the student's situation, in consultation with the student and his or her parents.

Note: We suggest that you keep this document with the *Québec Education Program*.