

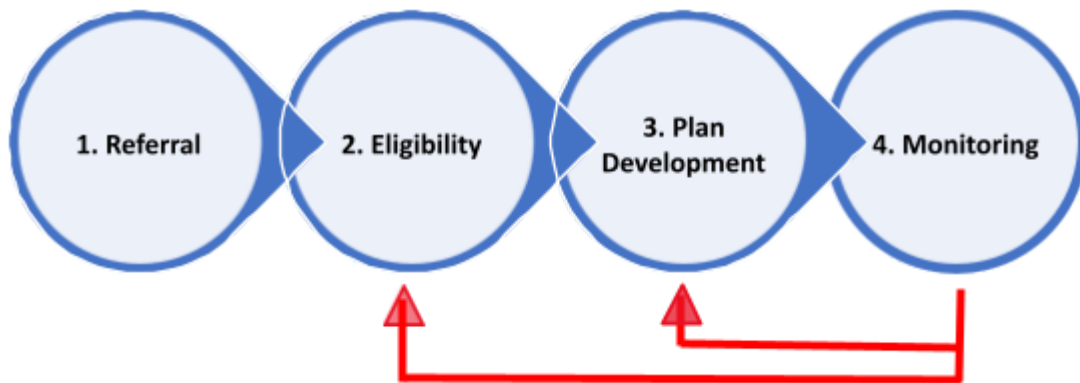
A Parent's Guide to Section 504

What is Section 504?

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a federal law that protects qualified individuals from discrimination based on their disability. Section 504 provides: "No otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States . . . shall, solely by reason of her or his disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance . . .".

Unlike special education, Section 504 does not provide specialized instruction for eligible students. Instead, Section 504 ensures that eligible students with disabilities receive the accommodations and/or related services that they need in order to access curriculum and learning opportunities. The determination of whether a student qualifies under Section 504 must be made on a case by case basis and is subject to review by the school 504 team.

The NCCA Section 504 Process



1. **Referral:** Parents/guardians or other individuals can refer a student to the 504 process if they believe the student has or is suspected to have a physical or mental impairment.
2. **Eligibility Determination:** Under Section 504, formalized testing is not required; however, a variety of sources of information should be considered. Once a student is found eligible under Section 504, they are protected from discrimination related to their disability.
3. **Plan Development:** If the student is eligible and found in need of a 504 plan, the 504 team will develop a plan for the student, describing the personalized accommodations and services that are needed in order to access the general education curriculum at the school.
4. **Monitoring:** The 504 team will meet annually to review the student's 504 plan and every three years to review the student's eligibility under Section 504.

Section 504 Contacts

- District: Maggie Bush (mbush@myncca.com)
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- 9th-12th grade: Ryan Hinkleman (rhinkleman@myncca.com)

Additional Resources

- [NCCA Section 504](#)
- [NC DPI Students with Disabilities](#)