CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Prepared by

Nadine A. Brown, Esq.
www.nadinebrownpa.com
(407) 678 2224
1073 Willa Springs Drive
Suite 1017
Winter Springs, Fl 32708

SUMMARY:
Every child deserves the best opportunity for success in life. If a parent observes behavior in their child or a pediatrician determines the child has deficits based on an assessment of development milestones, then either can request evaluation by a specialist to determine a diagnosis or what intervention services could prove useful for progress.

SEEKING SERVICES:
A parent may request evaluations and assessments through clinical referrals to pediatric respiratory, occupational, physical, vision or speech therapists, or neurology for example or an Early Steps program provided by the local Department of Health. See https://floridaearlysteps.com

SCHOOL PROGRAMS:
If the child has been identified as having a disability or diagnosis, the parents can request the child be evaluated by the school district's early intervention program specialists before starting Voluntary Pre-K or as soon as the condition manifests. If in private school, the parents need to advocate for accommodations although public schools have more stringent accountability standards.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS:
To ensure the student's academic success and life goals, it is important parents remain involved in the development of and progressed monitoring of an individual education (IEP) or 504 plan that articulates the child's academic goals and objectives.

THE LAW:
Each child has the right to a Free Appropriate Public Education pursuant to the Civil Rights Act of 1973 Section 504 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part B See https://sites.ed.gov/idea/