Resources for Mental Health Providers on Understanding Accommodations in Schools

The following list of resources was prepared for the South Southwest Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) for Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) for First Episode Psychosis (FEP) providers in this region. The list of resources aims to help CSC providers support young people in CSC to access the best school accommodations possible for their needs. As each young person experiencing psychosis needs something different, the list describes education law and a range of possible accommodations.

Understanding Basics of Federal Laws for IEPs and 504

A chart that compares the differences between IEP and 504 plans.

>>**View Resource**

The Supporting Students Experiencing Early Psychosis in Middle School and High School Issue Brief prepared by Dr. Jason Schiffman and others describes the fundamentals of IEP and 504 plans as well as possible accommodations for students based on individual needs.

>>**View Resource**

The National Disability Rights network has a directory for an organization in each state to help people with disabilities and mental health concerns understand their legal rights.

>>**View Resource**

Finding Accommodations

The Searchable Online Accommodation Resource (SOAR) allows you to search by experience and find relevant accommodations. You can search by anything that the individual needs, including "mental health."

>>**View Resource**

Accommodation central provides a search tool for accommodations by subject matter.

>>**View Resource**

General Resources & Trainings from Region 6

Texas Education Agency (TEA) provides a variety of guidance, technical assistance, and question and answer documents as well as video trainings, which include training on accommodations.

>>View Resource

There are multiple statewide technical assistance networks in Texas that provide training around accommodations and other specialized topics, including the Inclusion in Texas Network, Tiered Interventions using Evidence-Based Research, and Student-Centered Transitions Network.

>>View Resource

The IDEA manual is a guide for Texas parents and students on special education rights. It covers laws, education records, the process for accessing special education, and resolving disagreements. Sample forms and letters are also included.

>>View Resource

The Arkansas Division of Special Education provides a variety of guidance, technical assistance, tools and resources.

>>View Resource

The Louisiana Department of Education provides several resources, tools and guidance documents including information on the April Dunn Act.

>>View Resource

The New Mexico Public Education Department Special Education Parent Portal provides guidance documents to support families of special education students.

>>View Resource

The Oklahoma Department of Education Special Education Services Webpage provides a thorough manual for families – Special Education Services Policies and Procedures, and specific information and guidance about several disabilities.

>>View Resource

Bullying & Safe Schools

Stopbullying.gov provides a range of resources on bullying, cyberbullying, and prevention strategies for students of all ages, school staff, parents, and community members.

>>View Resource

In Texas, David's Law (SB 179), effective September 1, 2017, relates to harassment, bullying, and cyberbullying in Texas schools. The Texas State University Texas School Safety Center describes this legislation and its prevention and intervention expectations for schools. The website also provides a Bullying Checklist to determine whether an act is bullying or cyberbullying by law.

>>View Resource

For more general mental health resources, including information on first episode psychosis (FEP) and school mental health, please see the South Southwest MHTTC website.

We also invite you to learn more about the Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health (TIEMH), a center at the Steve Hicks School of Social Work at The University of Texas at Austin and our EPINET-TX project.

If you have any questions, please e-mail southsouthwest@mhttcnetwork.org.

South Southwest (HHS Region 6)

MHTTC
Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

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Services Administration