

LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT (LRE) PROCESS

This is a guide to help the IEP Team systematically make decisions about LRE and program/services to address the student's needs.

Key points to remember as the team decides the best location for programs/services:

- General education environments must be the presumed location for all students with IEPs first.
- Students with IEPs have the right to the accommodations, modifications and supports they need to be successful in general education classrooms.
- Removal should not occur simply for administrative convenience (ie: scheduling problems). The burden of proof is on the school district to justify removal from general education setting (student specific reason).
- Integration in general education classes is associated with better outcomes such as employment, postsecondary education and income.

Questions each IEP Team must ask and document when considering program/services location and LRE:

- Review each need identified in the demonstrated need section
- Review each supplemental aide and service in the IEP – alignment to support the student in general education classrooms
- Review the goals/objectives – alignment to general curriculum
- Review program/service location options:

- What opportunities and resources already exist in the general education setting (co-teaching, LRE aides, etc)? Describe: _____

- If they do not currently exist, how might these opportunities and/or resources be established and provided to the student to allow the student to be in the general education setting. Yes No, explain: _____

- The team should discuss any barriers academically, socially or behaviorally that would impact the student to be successful in the general education setting even with supports and services for each need area. Explain for each need area: _____

- What programs/services were considered for the student?

Program/Service	Location considered	Rationale for rejection or acceptance
	<input type="checkbox"/> Within General Ed Classroom <input type="checkbox"/> Outside of General Ed Classroom	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Within General Ed Classroom <input type="checkbox"/> Outside of General Ed Classroom	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Within General Ed Classroom <input type="checkbox"/> Outside of General Ed Classroom	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Within General Ed Classroom <input type="checkbox"/> Outside of General Ed Classroom	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Within General Ed Classroom <input type="checkbox"/> Outside of General Ed Classroom	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Within General Ed Classroom <input type="checkbox"/> Outside of General Ed Classroom	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Within General Ed Classroom <input type="checkbox"/> Outside of General Ed Classroom	

- Summary of discussion: _____

- Next Steps: _____

