



Be a

Surrogate Parent for a student in Special Education

What is a Surrogate Parent?

A surrogate parent is an individual who represents an IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) eligible child or thought-to-be eligible child in matters relating to the identification, assessment, educational placement, and the provision of FAPE (Free and Appropriate Public Education).

A surrogate parent is an individual who meets specific qualifications and volunteers to perform the duties of a parent or guardian in the special education process.

What is the Surrogate Parent's Role?

The surrogate parent's role is the same as the role of the parent. The surrogate parent is to represent the rights of the student in the special education process. The surrogate parent must ensure that the rights of IDEA-eligible or thought-to-be eligible children are protected.

The surrogate parent plays an important role in the special education process. The surrogate parent is, in essence, the parent for a special education student for whom a parent is not available or cannot be located. The surrogate parent has the same rights as the biological parent or guardian in all aspects of the special education process.



Please contact Brianne Hodges, Special Education Director, for information about training opportunities and information to become a Surrogate Parent.

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