



# Disability DIAGNOSIS VERSUS

KY-SPIN

## EDUCATIONAL ELIGIBILITY



**DIAGNOSIS**

A medical diagnosis (Dx) is used by doctors and other providers to describe a person's signs and symptoms.

Diagnosis can be given by the child's pediatrician, psychologist, neuropsychologist, speech-language pathologist, etc.... These types of evaluations are paid for by the parent or child's current health insurance.

While a diagnosis is not an evaluation for the school, it can be used in the district's evaluation process to help determine educational eligibility.



**EVALUATION**

Educational Evaluation is used by school districts to decide if a student's disability has an adverse affect on their education and meet eligibility requirements

An appropriate evaluation must be completed by a team of trained evaluators, must use sound evaluation materials and procedures, and must be administered on a non-discriminatory basis. The school district pays all costs.

An evaluation is not a diagnosis. It is how the school gathers information to determine what the child's educational needs may be and if the child qualifies for special education.

**Many diagnosed children can participate in school without special education services. Other children may not have a diagnosis, but still need services. During the evaluation and assessment process, the school determines if child's disability affects them educationally.**



**Are medical evaluations the same as educational evaluations?**

**No.** The purpose of a medical evaluation is to make a diagnosis and provide treatment

**Does a diagnosis from a doctor guarantee your child will receive special education services ?**

**No.** Many children with a medical diagnosis can participate in school without any special education services.

**Can a doctor write an IEP or 504 plan?**

**No.** Information from the doctor maybe helpful to share with the school to take into consideration for eligibility and developing an appropriate plan.

**Are educational evaluations and medical evaluations the same?**

**No.** The purpose of an educational evaluation is to determine eligibility for special education and present levels of academic and functional performance.

**Will an evaluation from the school guarantee your child qualifies for an IEP or 504 plan?**

**No.** The evaluation is to determine if the student is eligible. If they qualify, an IEP or 504 plan will be written by the IEP or 504 team. As the parent you are a critical equal member of that team.

**What if I don't agree with the evaluation results, is there anything I can do?**

**Yes.** You can request an Independent Education Evaluation (IEE) at no cost to you.