

California Special Education Law 2016

San Francisco and Live Webcast, October 6, 2016

Why You Should Attend

Currently, approximately 700,000 students with disabilities receive special education services in California, comprising about 10 percent of the state's public school enrollment. In addition, there are many other students who have disabilities that impact their access to education, even though they have not been made eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). There are many overlapping federal and state laws that apply to the education of students with disabilities. The California Special Education Law 2016 program will provide attendees with an understanding of issues affecting the current practice of special education law.

What You Will Learn

- An understanding of when, how, and what to expect from filing claims with the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights and the California Department of Justice on behalf of students with disabilities.
- An understanding of laws, issues, and strategies related to bullying behavior towards and by children with disabilities.
- Advocacy strategies for representing clients in special education due process proceedings.
- Advocacy strategies for representing clients in federal appeals of special education due process decisions.
- An understanding of the continuum of placement options that school districts are required to make available to students eligible for special education.

Who Should Attend

This full-day training event is designed for both experienced special education attorneys and advocates as well as for those who are newcomers to this area of law. This program is appropriate for attorneys and advocates who represent either children and parents or school districts.

Program Schedule

9:00

Program Overview and Introductions

Elizabeth F. Eubanks, Maggie Roberts

9:15

How the Office of Civil Rights and the California Department of Justice Handle Claims of Discrimination Against Students with Disabilities

Children who qualify for special education are also protected by state and federal anti-discrimination laws, such as Title 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Unruh Act, and California Government Code 11135. This panel will provide an insider's look into how two public agencies, the U.S. Department of Education (DOE)'s Office of Civil Rights and the California Department of Justice's Bureau of Children's Justice investigate and address claims of disability-based discrimination in education settings.

Christine Chuang, Laura Faer

10:45

Networking Break

11:00

Effective Strategies for Addressing Bullying in the Context of Special Education

Many children with disabilities are the target of bullying and many others are accused of being bullies. Both being a victim of bullies and being labeled as a bully can have an adverse impact on children with disabilities ability to access general education and special education. This panel will discuss federal and state laws that relate to bullying in the context of the education of children with disabilities, explore the impact of bullying, and describe effective strategies for addressing bullying school and district-wide and in individual cases.

Dora J. Dome, Suge Lee

12:30

Lunch

1:30

The Continuum of Placement Options for Students with Disabilities

Under the IDEA, students with disabilities must receive their education in the regular classroom environment to the maximum extent appropriate and, to the extent such placement is not appropriate, in an environment with the least possible amount of segregation from the students' nondisabled peers and community. This panel will discuss the many considerations that go into making a correct placement determination, including when highly restrictive settings – such as home hospital instruction or residential placement – may be appropriate.

Dr. Christopher Arrillaga, Deborah U. Ettinger

3:00

Networking Break

3:15

A Review of Special Education Cases and Trends in the Administrative, State, and Federal Court Systems

This panel will discuss the most influential cases from 2015 and 2016 that impact on the practice of special education law. They will also discuss legal and factual trends that have been emerging at an administrative, state, and federal level and provide practice tips.

F. Richard Ruderman, Roberta S. Savage

5:00

Adjourn

Faculty

Co-Chairs

Elizabeth F. Eubanks

Inland Empire Regional Director
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Maggie Roberts

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