samegoal

Manifestation Determination Review

When a student enrolled in the special education program receives disciplinary action, the ARD Committee meets to determine if the student's actions were a result of their disability. This is called a manifestation determination review (MDR).

Conducting a manifestation determination review

Steps *Steps to conduct a manifestation determination review:*

1. Send a **Notice of ARD Committee Meeting**. The purpose will be to **discuss disciplinary matters**.
2. Create a **Manifestation Determination Review**.
3. Provide a timeline and any relevant background information.
4. Review all relevant information in the student's file, including their IEP.
    - See below for steps on how to document that you reviewed the student's IEP.
5. Make a determination of whether the student's behavior is or is not a manifestation of their disability.
    - If the behavior is not a manifestation, the school may take disciplinary action in the same manner they would for a child without disabilities.
    - If the behavior is a manifestation, the ARD Committee must take additional steps to address the issue.
    - Conduct a functional behavioral assessment (FBA) and implement a behavior intervention plan (BIP).
    - Review and modify the student's BIP if one already exists.
    - Remedy any deficiencies if the behavior was a result of the LEA failing to implement the IEP.

Steps *Steps to document a review of an IEP for an MDR:*

1. Follow the typical steps to amend or revise the student's IEP.

2. In the **Amendments/Revisions** section, under meeting, select **"Yes"**.
3. For **Section Amended/Revised**, enter **Complete IEP**.
4. For **Description of Changes**, enter **reviewed IEP in accordance with MDR**.
5. If you want to add signatures, you can add a signature section in Section 15 of the IEP, or print off the signatures page in the MDR and add it as an attachment.

Tip This is a suggested workflow for documenting a review of an IEP that several districts follow, however it is not required to document the review in this manner.