

A Deep Dive Into Section 504 AA #3932

Dr. Christina Sepiol

Tuesday, March 21, 2023 - 8:30 -11:30 a.m.

[Register Here](#)

Session will be held on Zoom

The ever-increasing increase in the number of requests for Section 504 Plans by parents in the post-pandemic period means that administrators will be required to lead teams in considering the important aspects of eligibility as well as specific accommodations and modifications. Importantly, administrators will need to have the skills to guide their teams in preventing the use of a 504 Plan as a “learning loss” tool that can have drastic effects on the students identified as having a disability.

Administrators will be exposed to the existing case law pertaining to Section 504, especially as it relates to eligibility, and an analysis of the purpose and scope of accommodations and modifications. The use of specialized instruction and related services as contained within some 504 Plans and considerations for moving to the development of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) will be included in this discussion.

The practical purpose of this course is to improve the quality of discussions held about the use/purpose of Section 504, to look at Section 504 eligibility within the current post-pandemic period, and to develop 504 Plans that are appropriate in their nature and scope. Both general and special education administrators are now facing these issues on a frequent basis; therefore, this course will be an informative and important tool for them.

Outcomes

- Participants will understand advanced concepts and principles of Section 504 eligibility, especially as it relates to the issues (anxiety, depression, school avoidance, etc.) students face in the post-pandemic period.
- Participants will develop a tool that will be a template to guide school teams on the principles of Section 504 as well as the data points that need to be reviewed when considering eligibility.
- Participants will develop a tool that will be a guide to the existing school supports through an MTSS/RTI model and Section 504 supports that go beyond the typical school supports. Case law examples of 504 Plan eligibility, including an analysis of accommodations and modifications supported by hearing officers and judges, will be presented.
- Participants will define guiding principles in distinguishing between the application of 504 Plans and IEPs, and addressing parent requests in determining appropriate accommodations and modifications.

Intended Outcome for Student Achievement

Providing appropriate supports, accommodations, and modifications will help students achieve at a higher level.

Target Audience

Administrators who handle 504 requests and meetings

Continuing Education

1 Administrator Academy credit

Administrator Academy credit will be offered for \$15; payment must be sent to NSSEO. Contact Molly Dunne at mdunne@nsseo.org for payment information.

6 PD hours



Presenter:
Dr. Christina Sepiol

Dr. Sepiol is the assistant superintendent of Student Services at Indian Prairie Community Unit School District 204. Prior to her position there, she was legal counsel for numerous school districts throughout the state of Illinois, focusing her practice on matters related to special education, student discipline, and disability rights. Dr. Sepiol is the author of “Section 504: A Legal Guide for Educators: Practical Applications for Essential Compliance” (PESI, 2015).