



How do I request a Facilitated ADR?

An ADR may be requested by any member of the IEP team. The meeting can be initiated by contacting the school psychologist or program specialist that works with the child’s school.

Who attends the Facilitated ADR?

The ADR is attended by the parents and representatives from the school site. Other participants may be invited by both the parents and the school as appropriate. The meeting will be facilitated by an impartial facilitator.

Will the ADR be recorded?

ADRs are confidential meetings and not recorded. The ADR is a collaborative process that allows all participants to express their interests in a safe and confidential setting.

Is it mandatory that I attend the ADR?

No, the ADR is voluntary and based upon both parties wanting to reach a fair and equitable agreement. Both the parents and school team may withdraw from the process at anytime.



“In the middle of every difficulty lies an opportunity.”

- Albert Einstein



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**FACILITATED
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE
RESOLUTION**

**IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION**



WHAT IS A FACILITATED ADR?

Facilitated Alternative Dispute Resolution is an opportunity for school teams and parents to meet in a collaborative, safe and confidential setting to discuss how they can move forward concerning any disputes that arose from the IEP.

The impartial facilitator will engage the parties in a creative process that increases the effectiveness of the group discussion in a way that allows the group to positively move forward. The facilitator also works to build a positive working relationship for future meetings which allows the group to retain control of the outcome.

The meeting may result with a proposal to return to the IEP process, a settlement agreement or other proposed actions.



BENEFITS OF A FACILITATED ADR...



CONFIDENTIAL AND COLLABORATIVE

The ADR process gives the parties an opportunity to come together in a confidential, open and safe space where a collaborative relationship is encouraged and supported while working toward a mutually agreeable outcome. ADR keeps the decision making in the hands of the family and the district.

RESULTS ORIENTATED

ADR focuses on the interests of both parties and looks at how they can move forward together in a positive manner. Special education agreements are more effective when families and schools develop their own solutions rather than abide by an agreement imposed by a third party. An ADR often results in a collaboratively developed agreement.

TIMELY RESOLUTION

Disagreements are typically resolved in a timely manner, often after one ADR meeting and follow-up emails. Due Process filings, on the other hand, can take a minimum of 45 days and are usually much longer.

COST EFFECTIVE

ADR is offered at no cost to the Parent or school team, while Due Process filings can be costly for both.