

## YOU AND YOUR CHILD HAVE RIGHTS

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You have the **RIGHT** to:

- **NOTICE** of your legal rights and of your school's decisions about your child
- **ACCESS** your child's records
- **CONFIDENTIALITY** of records
- **CONSENT** to the initial evaluation and placement for your child
- **CONSENT** for re-evaluation when new assessment is needed



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

about services your child with TBI may receive, please contact:

Columbus City Schools  
Psychologist Sara Timms  
614-365-5335  
stimms2576@columbus.k12.oh.us

Psychologist Julie Baker  
614-365-5911  
jbaker2956@columbus.k12.oh.us

Columbus City Schools Health & Community Services  
Kate King, Director  
614-365-5824

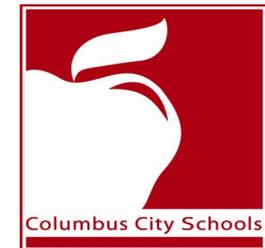
RESOURCES:  
<http://intheclassroom.cbirt.org/>

Columbus City Schools

Psychological Services  
Hudson Distribution Center  
737 E. Hudson St.  
Columbus, OH 43211

*Your child with traumatic brain injury (tbi) may need special education services to **Thrive Beyond Injury***

The TBI Project is a program offered through Columbus City Schools. The purpose of the project is to educate others about TBI, identify students with TBI and provide better services and supports to those students .



## Can my child receive special education services?

The federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Ohio law provide special education services for children with TBI. In Ohio, the definition of TBI for educational purposes is:

*An acquired injury to the brain caused by an external physical force or by other medical conditions, including but not limited to stroke, anoxia, infectious disease, aneurysm, brain tumors and neurological insults resulting from medical or surgical treatments. The injury results in total or partial functional disability or psychosocial impairment or both, that adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term applies to open or closed head injuries, as well as to other medical conditions that result in acquired brain injuries. The injuries result in impairment in one or more areas such as cognition; language; memory; attention; reasoning; abstract thinking; judgment; problem-solving; sensory; perceptual, and motor abilities; psychosocial behavior; physical functions; information processing; and speech. The term does not apply to brain injuries that are congenital or degenerative, or to brain injuries induced by birth trauma.*

The Ohio definition of TBI is more inclusive than the IDEA definition because it includes internal injury to the brain. The IDEA definition is limited to external injury. This means that more children with TBI would qualify for special education in Ohio than in other states without an inclusive definition.

## What services can my child receive?

Your child is entitled to a free appropriate public education (FAPE) if qualified under the Ohio TBI definition. A FAPE means that your child receives special education and related services that are free, provided through an individualized education program (IEP), and that allow your child to be involved in and make progress in the general curriculum.

Special education is specially designed instruction that meets your child's unique needs. Related services include transportation, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, nursing services, and attendance services.

All special education services are determined by your child's team and are provided through the IEP. Parents are members of the IEP team and should participate in all decisions about your child's identification, placement and services.

The IEP must include the special education and related services your child needs to receive FAPE. It must also include annual goals and short-term objectives that are measurable. These should focus on your child's needs and can address academics or behavior. Your child should be educated in the least restrictive environment (LRE). This means your child should be educated with children who do not have disabilities to the maximum extent appropriate.

## Will my child be evaluated?

The IEP is based on a comprehensive evaluation of your child's needs. Your school will conduct a multi-faceted evaluation (MFE) and write a report summarizing the results of the evaluation. Children with TBI may need a special evaluation called a neuropsychological evaluation as part of the MFE to address problems commonly associated with TBI (memory, judgment organization...) Medical documentation and recommendations from your child's doctor are also helpful as part of the evaluation.

*Mission: Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.*