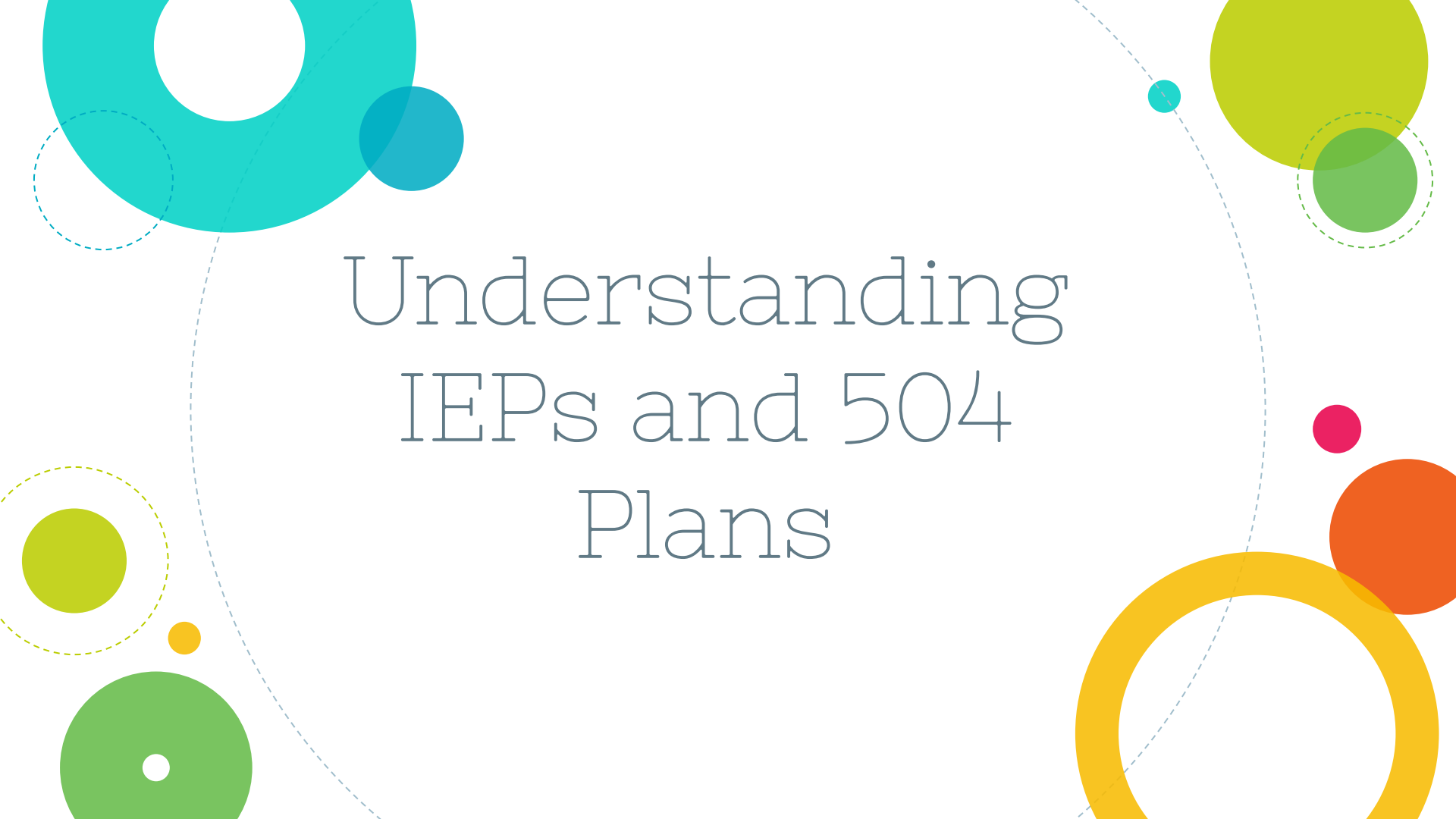


A decorative graphic featuring various colored circles (teal, blue, green, yellow, orange, pink) and dashed lines of corresponding colors, arranged in a circular pattern around the central text.

Understanding IEPs and 504 Plans

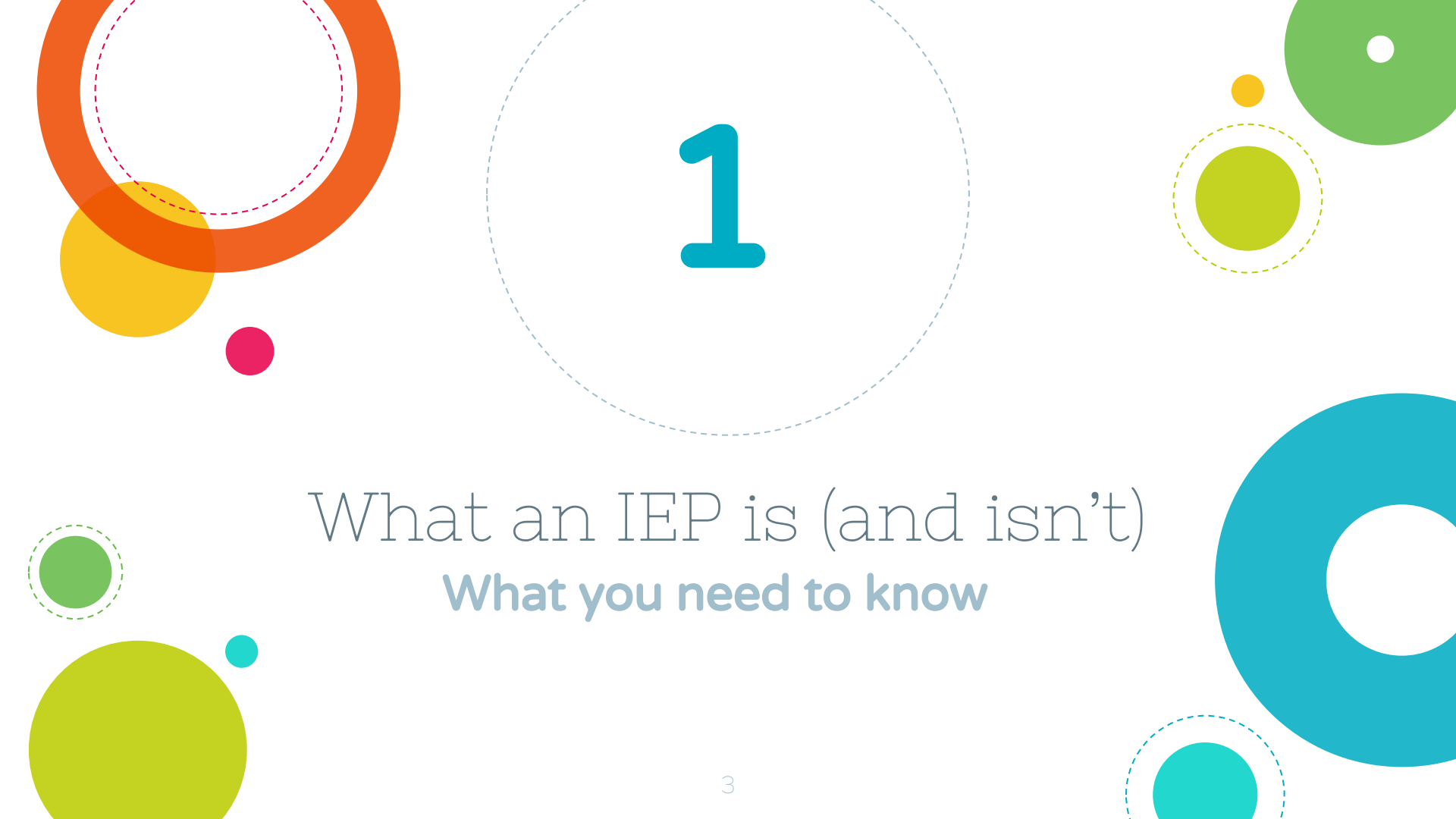
Hello!



I am Jennifer Lemke-Pawlak

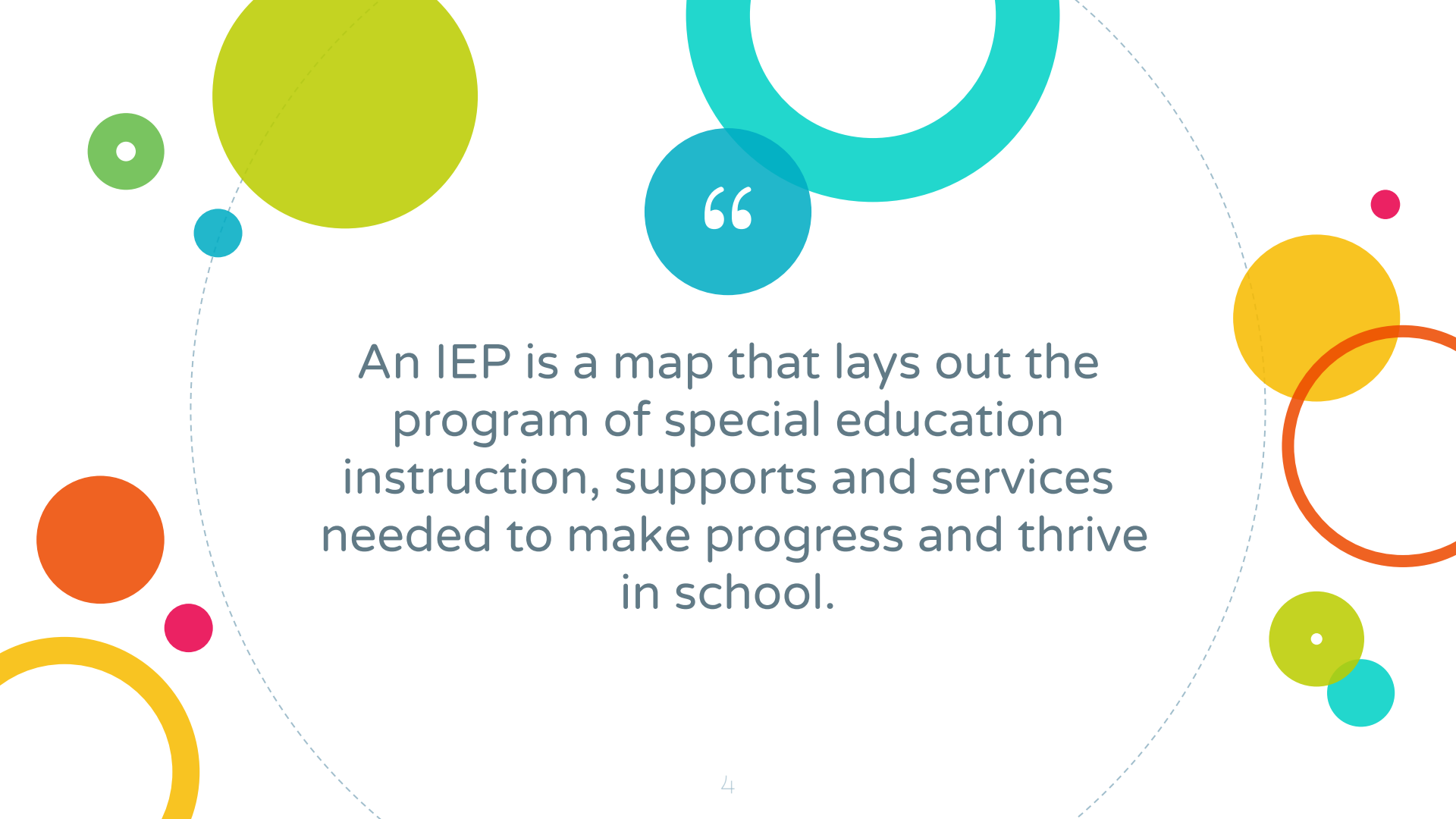
I am here because I love to help families with their IEPs!

You can find me at <https://autismconsultingservicesofmilwaukee.com/>

The background is white and decorated with various colorful circles and dashed lines. In the top left, there is a large orange circle with a dashed red outline, overlapping a yellow circle. Below the yellow circle is a small pink circle. In the top center, a large blue number '1' is centered within a large dashed light blue circle. In the top right, there is a green circle with a white dot in the center, a small orange circle, and a yellow circle with a dashed green outline. In the bottom left, there is a green circle with a dashed green outline, a large yellow circle, and a small cyan circle. In the bottom right, there is a large cyan circle with a white dot in the center, and a cyan circle with a dashed blue outline.

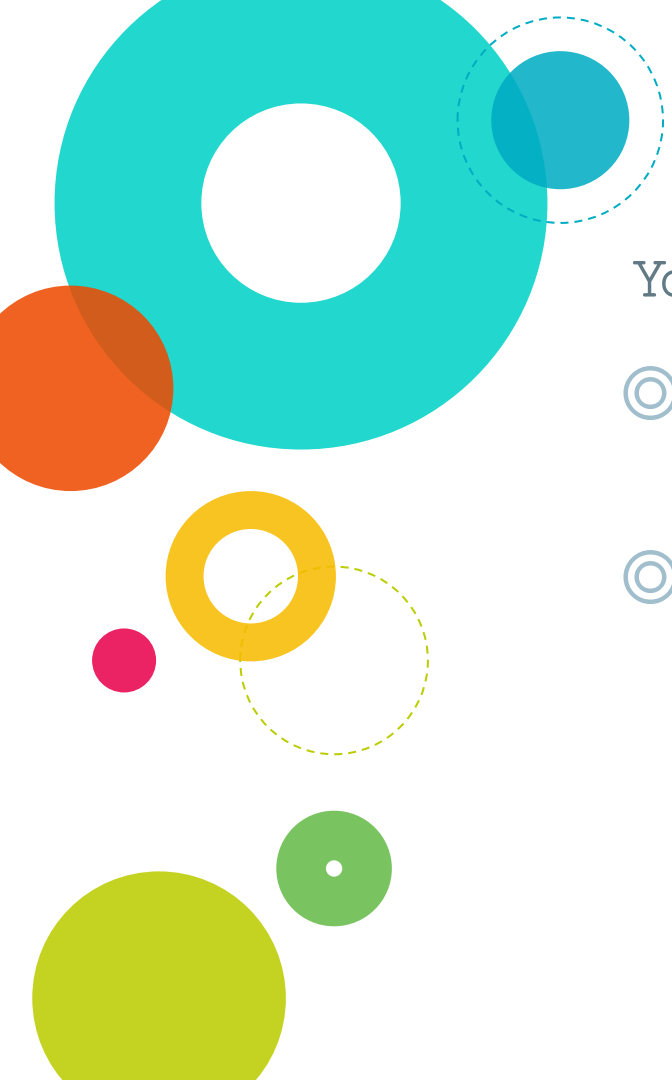
1

What an IEP is (and isn't)
What you need to know

The background features a large, light blue dashed circle. Various solid-colored circles and arcs are scattered around it: a large lime green circle at the top left, a large cyan arc at the top center, a large orange circle at the bottom left, a large yellow circle at the bottom right, and several smaller circles in green, blue, orange, and pink. A blue circle containing the text "“" is positioned above the main text.

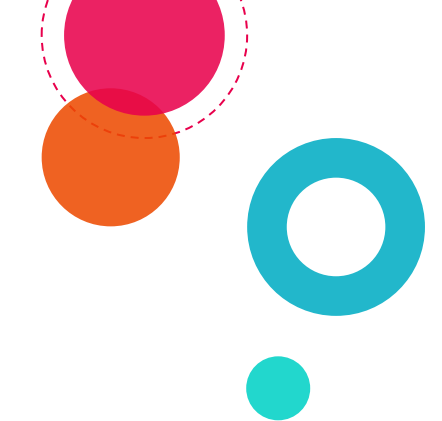
“

An IEP is a map that lays out the program of special education instruction, supports and services needed to make progress and thrive in school.



Your child's IEP is

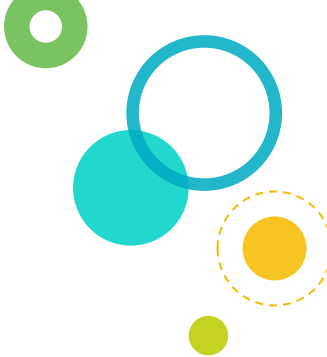
- ◎ A legal document
- ◎ Designed to help them access their education & make progress in learning



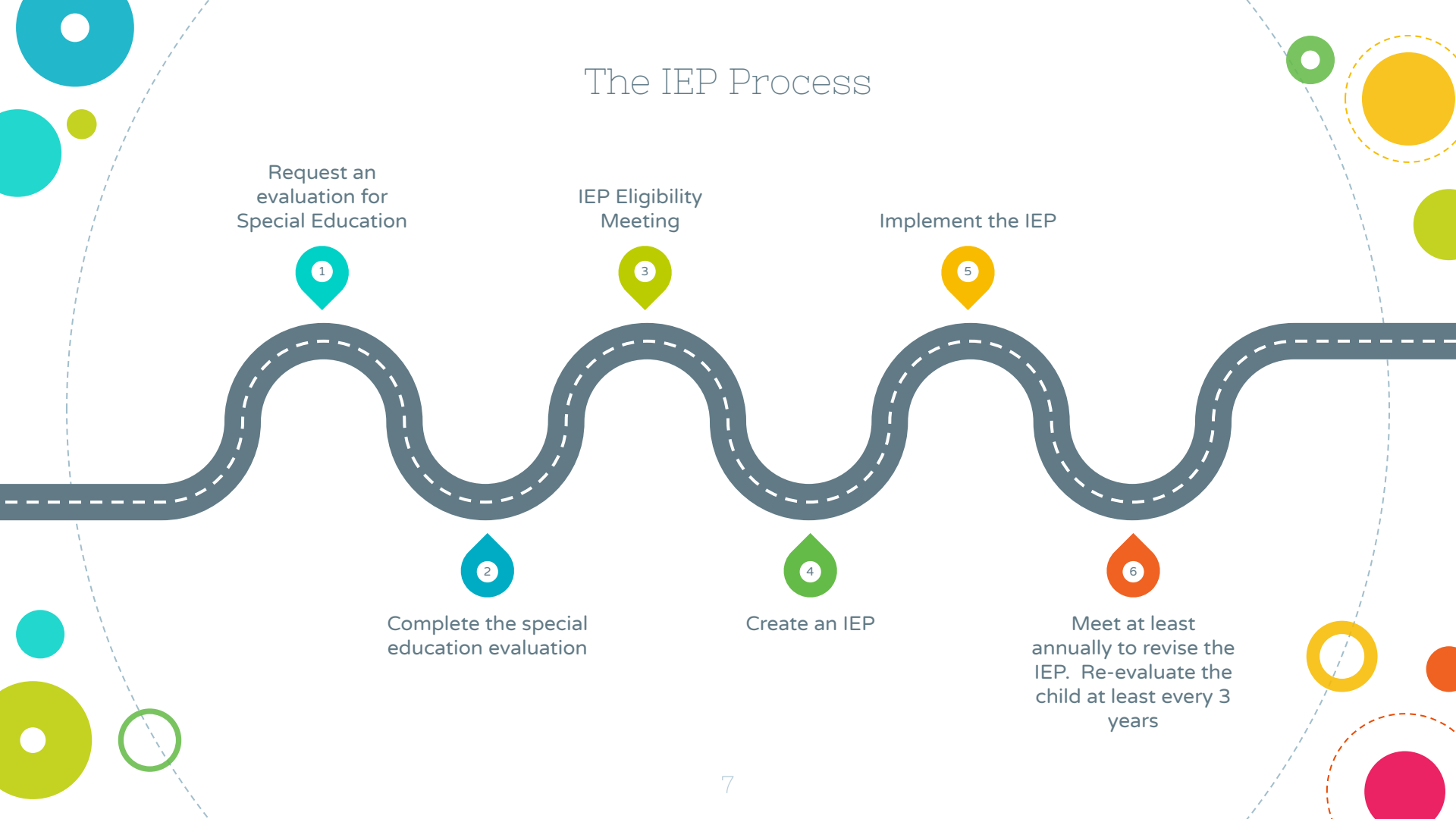
Your child's IEP is not:

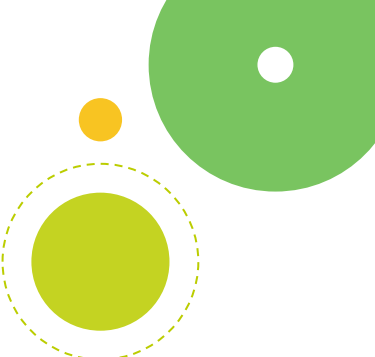
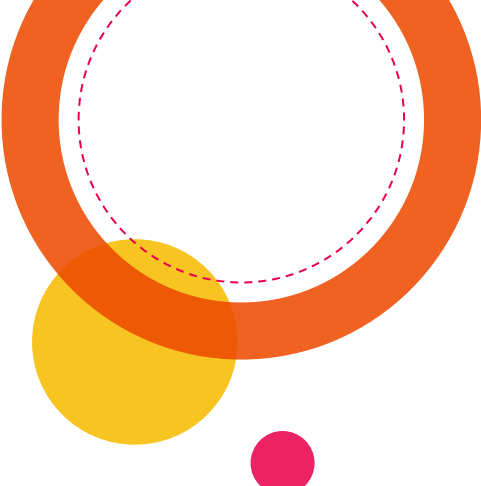
Designed to meet all
of their
developmental needs
outside of school

A substitute for
outside therapies and
supports



The IEP Process





2

Anatomy of an IEP
What should the IEP include?



Important Parts of an IEP





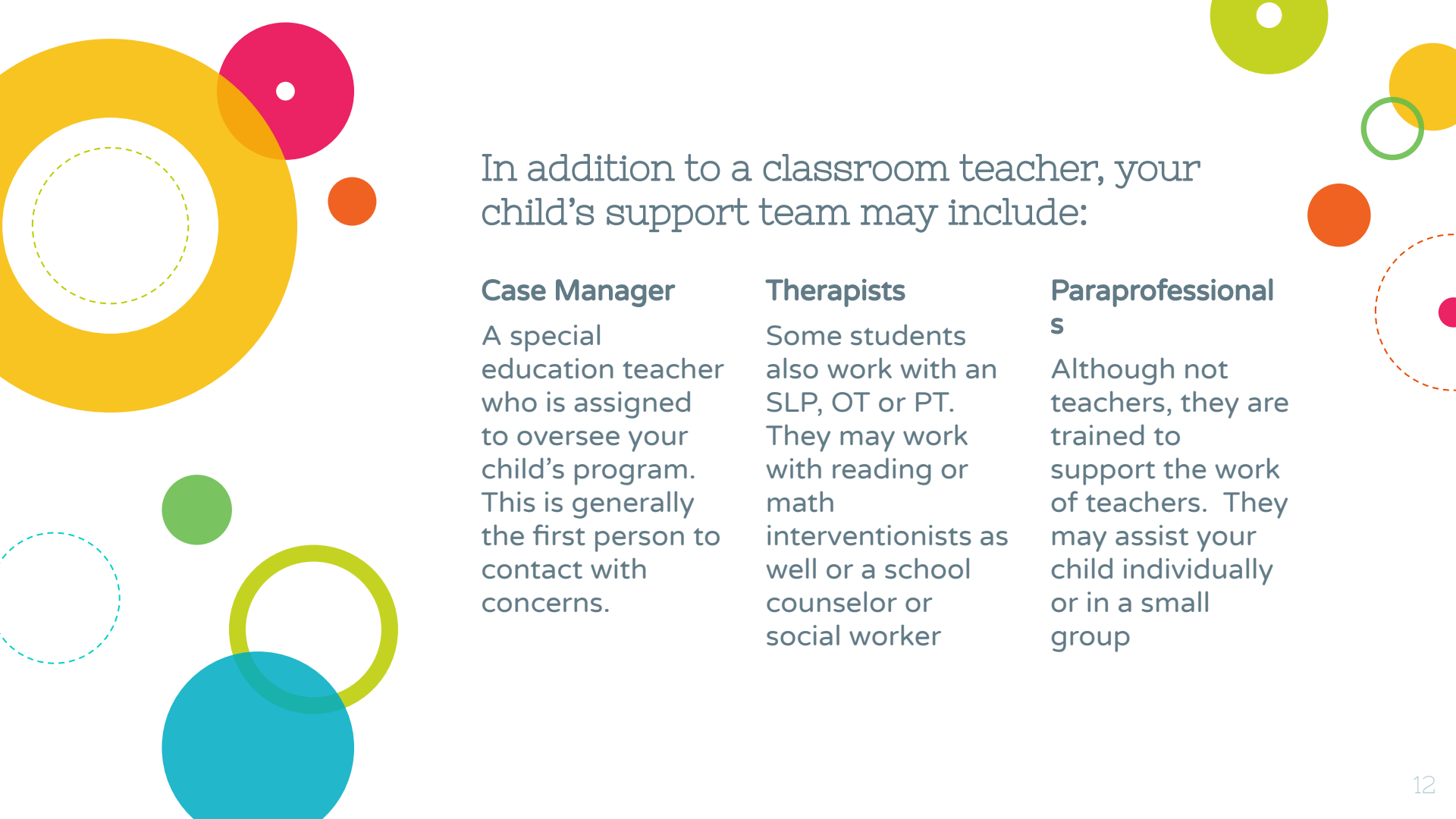
Eligibility Criteria

- ◎ Students qualify for Special Education in 1 (or more) of 12 areas
- ◎ Students with autism most often qualify in the areas of Autism, Other Health Impairment (OHI), Significant Developmental Delay, or Emotional Behavioral Disability (EBD)

Educational Autism



IEP teams decide whether or not a student meets this criteria *independent of* medical diagnosis



In addition to a classroom teacher, your child's support team may include:

Case Manager

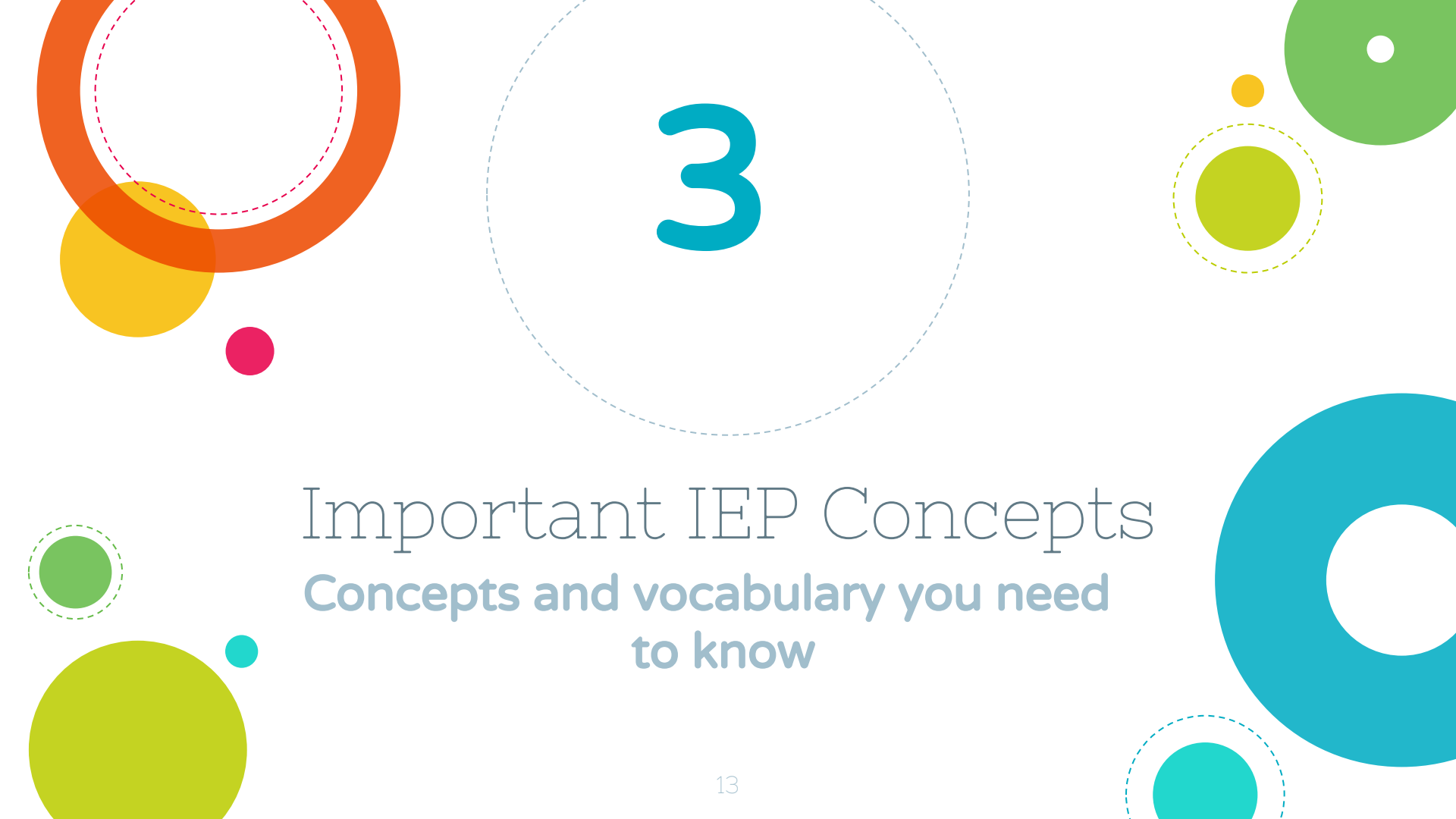
A special education teacher who is assigned to oversee your child's program. This is generally the first person to contact with concerns.

Therapists

Some students also work with an SLP, OT or PT. They may work with reading or math interventionists as well or a school counselor or social worker

Paraprofessionals

Although not teachers, they are trained to support the work of teachers. They may assist your child individually or in a small group



3

Important IEP Concepts

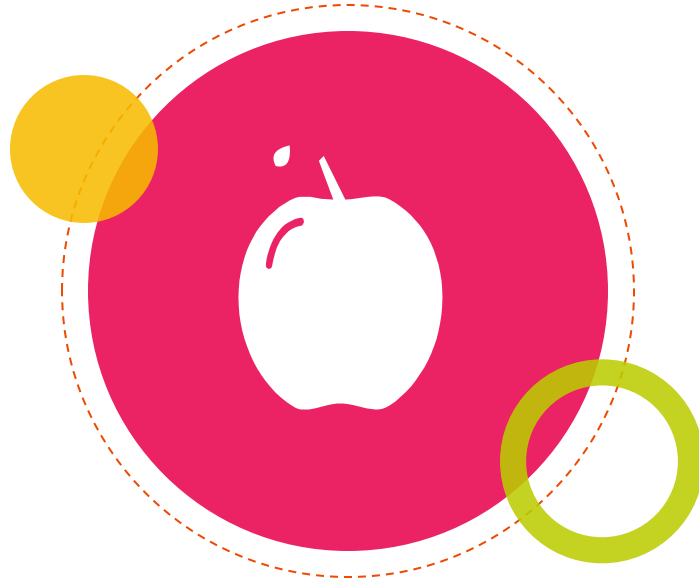
Concepts and vocabulary you need to know

FAPE



Free and Appropriate Public Education

Least Restrictive Environment



Your child should be with educated with peers as much as possible

Special Education



Specially designed instruction, delivered by a special education teacher or other specialist, that meets a child's unique needs

Related Services



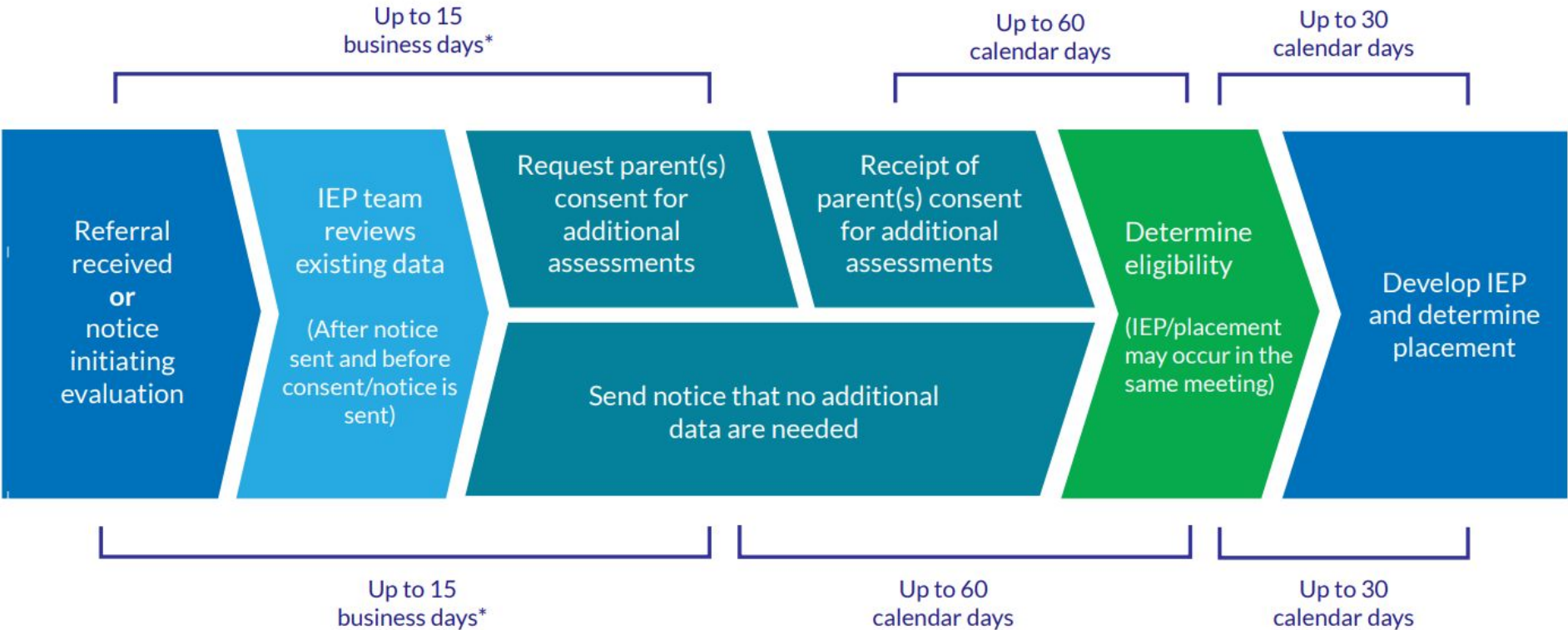
Supports that a child needs in order to benefit from special education

The background is white with various colorful circles and dashed lines. In the top left, there's a large orange circle with a dashed red outline, overlapping a yellow circle. Below it is a small pink circle. In the top center, a large dashed blue circle contains a solid blue number '4'. In the top right, there's a green circle with a white dot, a small orange circle, and a yellow circle with a dashed green outline. In the bottom left, there's a green circle with a dashed green outline, a small cyan circle, and a large yellow circle. In the bottom right, there's a large cyan circle with a white dot, a small cyan circle with a dashed blue outline, and a large cyan circle with a white dot.

4

What are our rights?
**Parents and students have rights
that are protected by the law**

Evaluation Timeline



* "Business day" means Monday through Friday except for Federal and State holidays.



You have the right to:

Be a full member of your child's team. Your concerns should be listened to and carefully considered.

To attend your child's meeting. The meeting should be held at a mutually agreeable time.

Receive written notice of proposed changes to your child's IEP or refusal to make requested changes to the IEP in your native language



A decorative graphic consisting of various colored circles and rings. In the top left, there is a large yellow ring with a dashed green inner circle, a pink circle with a white dot, and a small orange circle. In the bottom left, there is a green circle, a dashed cyan circle, a yellow ring, and a large blue circle. In the top right, there is a green circle with a white dot, a yellow circle, a green ring, an orange circle, and a dashed red circle with a pink dot. In the bottom right, there is a small pink circle.

You have the right to:

Consent (or not consent) to your child's evaluation and to the start of special education services

Revoke your consent for special education services

Inspect and review your child's educational records

The background is white and decorated with various colorful circles and dashed lines. In the top left, there is a large orange circle with a dashed red outline, overlapping a yellow circle. Below them is a small pink circle. In the top right, there is a green circle with a white dot in the center, a small orange circle, and a yellow circle with a dashed green outline. In the bottom left, there is a green circle with a dashed green outline, a large yellow circle, and a small cyan circle. In the bottom right, there is a large cyan circle with a white dot in the center, and a cyan circle with a dashed blue outline. A large, faint dashed blue circle is centered in the upper half of the page.

5

What is a 504 Plan?
How to get accomodations for your
child with a disability

IEPs vs. 504 Plans

IEP

Individuals with Disabilities
Education Act (IDEA)

504 Plan

Section 504 of the
Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Legal Basis:

Eligibility:

Specific disabilities affecting
educational performance

Any disability substantially
limiting major life activities

Services Provided:

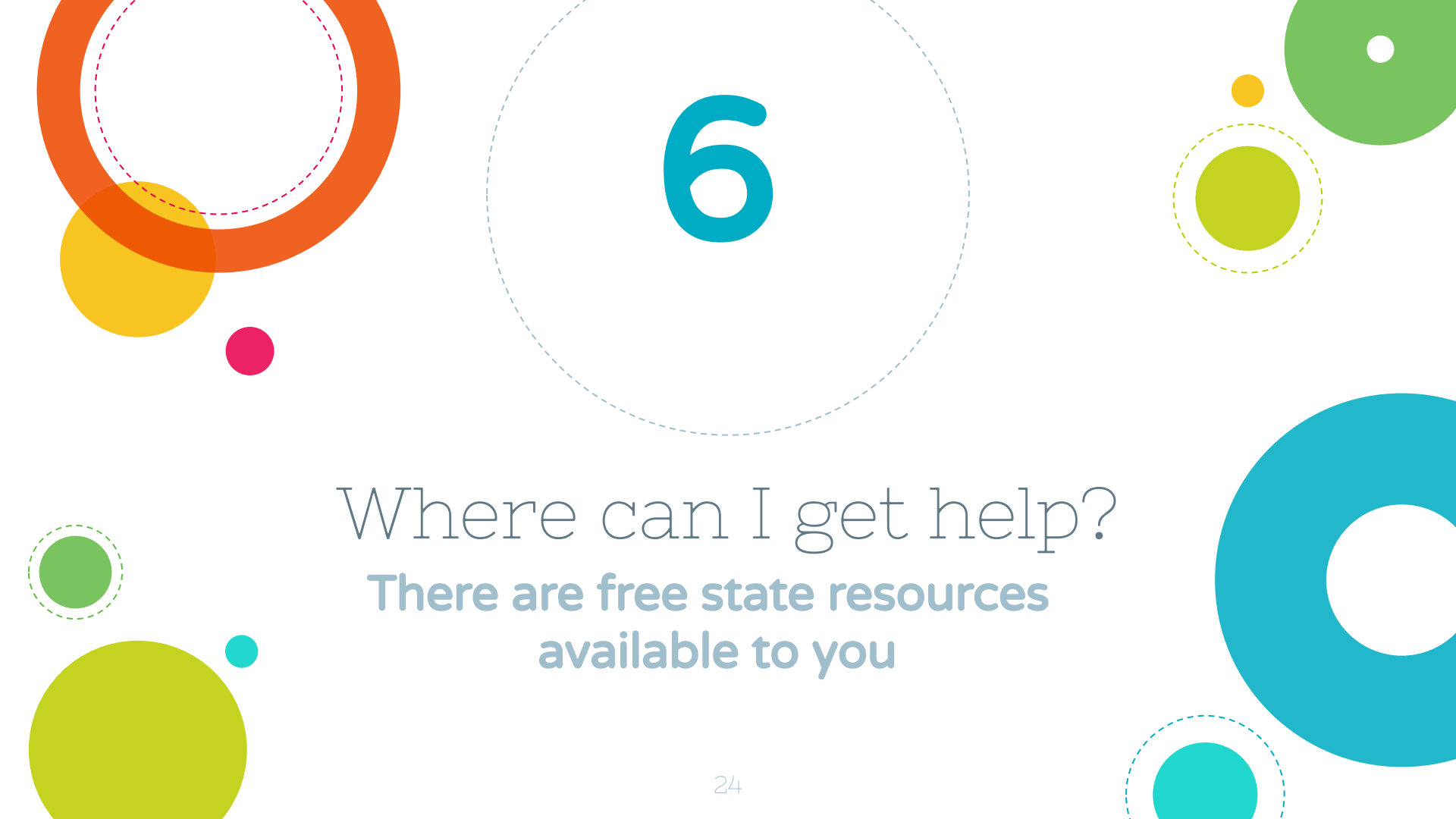
Special Education plus
modifications and
accommodations in
general education

Accommodations and
modifications in the general
education environment

Purpose:

Provide specially designed
instruction

Remove *access barriers* to
learning

The background is white and decorated with various colorful circles and dashed lines. In the top left, there is a large orange circle with a dashed red outline, overlapping a yellow circle. Below the yellow circle is a small pink circle. In the top center, a large blue number '6' is centered within a large dashed light blue circle. In the top right, there is a green circle with a white dot in the center, a small orange circle, and a lime green circle with a dashed yellow outline. In the bottom left, there is a green circle with a dashed green outline, a large lime green circle, and a small cyan circle. In the bottom right, there is a large cyan circle with a white dot in the center, and a cyan circle with a dashed blue outline.

6

Where can I get help?
**There are free state resources
available to you**

Wisconsin Facets:
wifacets.org

**Wisconsin Statewide Parent
Educator Initiative (WSPEI):**

<https://wspei.org/>

**Wisconsin Department of
Public Instruction:**

[https://dpi.wi.gov/sped/families/
rights](https://dpi.wi.gov/sped/families/rights)



Wisconsin Special Education Dispute Resolution Options



IEP Facilitation

This early conflict resolution option provides a neutral, trained facilitator to help the IEP team with the IEP process. The facilitator helps the IEP team maintain open, respectful, and productive communication and is provided by WSEMS.

Contact: Wisconsin Special Education Mediation System
888-298-3857
diana@wsems.us



Mediation

Mediation is available to resolve issues by providing a free professional mediator. The goal of mediation is to come to a mutual decision, in writing. Discussions during mediation are confidential and enforceable in court.

Contact: Wisconsin Special Education Mediation System
888-298-3857
diana@wsems.us



IDEA State Complaint

Any individual or organization may file a complaint with the DPI if they believe a school district has violated state or federal requirements regarding special education and related services.

Contact: DPI Special Education Team
608-266-1781
dpisped@dpi.wi.gov



Due Process Complaint or Hearing Request

A written request for a hearing related to the identification, evaluation, placement, issues pertaining to the IEP, or the provision of a free and appropriate public education of a child with a disability.

Contact: DPI Special Education Team
608-266-1781
dpisped@dpi.wi.gov





Question Time!
What questions do you have about
IEPs?

Thanks!



Still have questions?

You can find me at @jlemkepawlak.rdi@gmail.com