



Parents...

- Is your child not doing well in school because of behavior problems or mental health concerns?
- Are your child's grades suffering because of behavior or mental health needs?
- Is your child getting in trouble at school?
- Has your child been moved out of a general education classroom into an alternative program for behavior reasons?
- Has your child ever been restrained by school staff or placed in a time-out room?
- Has your child's school ever disciplined, suspended or expelled him for conduct that might be related to unmet behavioral or mental health needs?



Federal law may entitle your child to...

- A free and complete evaluation of your child's behavioral or mental health needs
- A plan to help your child's teachers address behavior that gets in the way of your child's learning
- Individualized instruction to meet your child's learning needs
- Behavioral and mental health supports to help your child succeed in school
- A special disciplinary process to determine whether any misconduct by your child is related to his behavioral or mental health needs



Behavioral and mental health supports may include:

- Classroom aides and supports
- Individual, group and family counseling
- Training to help parents support their child's behavioral or mental health needs
- Mentoring programs
- Instruction in social and communication skills
- Anger management instruction
- After-school activities
- Crisis services
- Service coordination for services provided by the school and other agencies, such as community mental health centers

Would school mental health and behavioral services help your child?



For more information and for advocacy help, contact:

Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program (ADAP)

University of Alabama
Box 870395
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0395
(205) 348-4928
(800) 826-1675 (toll free in Alabama)
adap@adap.ua.edu (e-mail)
http://adap.ua.edu (web)

ADAP provides free legal services to children and adults with disabilities in Alabama.



Additional Resources

Way to Go: School Success for Children with Mental Health Needs

<http://www.bazelon.org/News-Publications/Publications/CategoryID/20/List/1/Level/a/ProductID/12.aspx?SortField=ProductNumber%2CProuductNumber>

NAMI Parents & Teachers as Allies

<http://www.nami.org/Find-Support/NAMI-Programs/NAMI-Parents-Teachers-as-Allies>

National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health

<http://www.ffcmh.org/>

School Mental Health and Behavioral Services



Tools for School Success!