The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires each state to have a Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) for the purpose of providing policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities in the state (20 U.S.C. 1412(a)(21)).

Duties of the SEAP include:

- Advising the state of unmet needs in the education of children with disabilities
- Commenting publicly on any state rules or regulations regarding the education of children with disabilities
- Advising the state regarding federal monitoring data collection and developing corrective action plans
- Advising the state in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities.

A majority of the members of the panel must be individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities (ages birth-26). Members must include at least:

- Parents of children with disabilities (ages birth-26)
- Individuals with disabilities
- Teachers
- Representatives of institutions of higher education that prepare special education and related services personnel
- State and local education officials, including officials who carry out activities of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- Administrators of programs for children with disabilities
- Representatives of other State agencies involved in the financing or delivery of related services to children with disabilities
- Representatives of private schools and public charter schools
- At least one representative of a vocational, community, or business organization concerned with the provision of transition services to children with disabilities
- A representative from the State child welfare agency responsible for foster care
- Representatives from the State juvenile and adult corrections agencies

For more information about the SEAP or other matters concerning special education, contact ADAP.