



Do you believe your child is getting an appropriate educational program which considers their special needs?

Is your child classified as eligible for special education?

What are the steps involved in getting an initial evaluation?

If an evaluation has been completed, were you given the opportunity to be involved in the process?

Do you know your rights pertaining to your child's program and placement?

How often can your child's program be reviewed or challenged?

Do you know how to contest the findings of the school's team of evaluators and the Administration?

Are you perplexed by "spec. ed." jargon such as FAPE, NCLB, RTI, LRE, IFSP, FERPA, FBA, IDEA, and Gebser?

About the advocate...

Buckley J. Hugo is the proud father of an autistic teenager, for whom Mr. Hugo has negotiated highly regarded special education services since his son was first diagnosed at age 4.

Prior to opening Midcoast Advocacy, Mr. Hugo worked for 20 years in the music and intellectual rights industry negotiating agreements with renown songwriters and entertainment attorneys. He applies this experience, along with years of working with school districts obtaining the services to which individuals are entitled under the law.

Mr. Hugo is a member of the Autism Society of Maine, the Maine Disability Rights Center, the National Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates (COPAA), and has been involved in a number of Wrightslaw Special Education and Advocacy Conferences.

Midcoast Advocacy

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***YOUR SPECIAL
NEEDS CHILD
DESERVES BETTER!***

**Special Education
Advocacy of Maine**

*Working with Maine's families
to ensure a Free and
Appropriate Public Education
for all schoolchildren*

Buckley J. Hugo

Tel: 207-504-7983

Helping you Navigate the world of Special Education

Your children need you to be the best informed guide for their educational experience.

Maine has one of the best sets of laws protecting the educational rights of disabled individuals, but few parents have the time to pour over the voluminous pages of regulations.

Our goal at Midcoast Advocacy is to help you through the many facets of a system that can be intimidating and overwhelming. Schools can and must provide services and modifications for your children, if any handicapping condition affects their ability to learn.

We are here to clarify the procedures, as well as to guide and assist you through protocol in attaining the most appropriate services available for your child.

We advocate for the appropriate educational services for children with disabilities, pursuant to:

- ✓ The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (I.D.E.A.),
- ✓ Maine Unified Special Education Regulations (M.U.S.E.R.),
- ✓ Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973,
- ✓ The Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.)
- ✓ No Child Left Behind Act (N.C.L.B.)

Our services include:

- Review of evaluations, correspondence, medical records, IEP's (Individualized Education Programs) and educational placements.
- A supportive presence in school meetings.
- Proposing and/or assistance preparing documentation.
- Advice about alternative means to resolving a dispute, including: mediation, complaint investigations and Due Process Hearings.
- Easy accessibility via personal visits, telephone calls, e-mail, and fax.



The advocates of Midcoast Advocacy can:

- Review and analyze existing records.
- Research and make recommendations for additional testing or services.
- Develop and review IEP and 504 plans.
- Accompany and advise parents at IEP / 504 meetings and mediation.

***Call 504-7983 to set up a
consultation***

**Our services are available
statewide.**