

Special Education Family Support Centers

Do you have questions about special education? Do you need help with navigating a disability service system? Are you struggling with figuring out your possible next step?

The Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC) Regional is here to help.

PEATC Regional

PEATC is Virginia's federally mandated Parent Training and Information Center (PTI). PEATC has staff in [your region of the state](#), ready to provide **free and confidential** assistance to Virginia's families of students receiving special education services.



Virginia Department of Education
[Special Education for Families](#)

[PEATC REGIONAL](#)
partners@peatc.org

(703) 923-0010 or (800) 869-6782
Assistance available in 300+ languages

Specific Duties of PEATC Regional

PEATC Regional Family Support Specialists:

- Provide direct assistance (by phone, email, and in person) to parents of children with disabilities to educate them about their options, brainstorm solutions, and empower them to make informed decisions about their child's special education services.
- Review Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and help parents prepare for IEP meetings, transition meetings, and eligibility meetings.
- Explain dispute resolution options and support families to ensure they can effectively prepare and navigate each process.
- Provide training (in-person and virtually) on special education-related topics to enhance the knowledge of families and the professionals working with them.
- Help students with disabilities build self-advocacy skills that will enable them to actively participate in meetings about educational services and make decisions about their lives.
- Provide families with information about state and federal special education provisions, problem-solving opportunities, and support to help them better meet the needs of children and young adults with disabilities 2-22 years of age and their family members.
- Connect with the school division-designated parent and family liaisons within their region and develop collaborative relationships and coordination processes.
- Work with the school division-designated parent and family liaisons to address family concerns about special education services, including planning and implementing educational trainings, outreach, and other events for families.

