

Dispute Resolution Chart

	Mediation	State Complaint	Due Process Complaint
Who can initiate the process?	A parent or LEA/Public Agency, but both parties must voluntarily agree to engage in mediation	Any individual or organization, including those from out of state	A parent or LEA/Public Agency
What is the time limit for filing?	None specified	Not more than 1 year prior to filing a written state complaint	Two years from when the party knew of the problem, with limited exceptions
What issues can be resolved?	Any issues related to special education	Any alleged violation of IDEA or Wyoming Chapter 7 Rules	Any matter relating to the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE)
What is the timeline for resolving the issues?	Must be scheduled in a timely manner	60 calendar days	75 calendar days The LEA must hold a resolution meeting within 15 days of the receipt of the parents' due process complaint, and the meeting may continue for up to 30 days. If no resolution can be achieved, the hearing must proceed and a decision must be issued within 45 days of the 30-day resolution period
Examples	Staffing issues such as wanting your child to work with a different teacher or paraeducator Program preferences such as wanting your child to be supported using one dyslexia program over another	Procedural violations such as not receiving prior written notice	Reimbursement such as for tuition or for an independent evaluation
Who determines the outcome?	All the parties together	State education agency	Hearing officer
Potential outcome	A full settlement agreement that must be signed to be enforceable	A written decision including findings of facts and conclusions. If a violation	A written decision ordering remedial action if the hearing officer determines the IDEA violations

WDE SPECIAL EDUCATION

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	in a court of law	occurred, corrective action will be ordered	require remedies
Is there an appeal process?	Allegations that a settlement agreement has been breached may be addressed in any state or federal court of competent jurisdiction to enforce an agreement's terms	The state complaint decision is final, but either party may request a due process hearing on issues relating to identification, evaluation, educational placement, or the provision of FAPE	A due process hearing officer's decision may be appealed in state or federal court within 90 days of the date of the decision