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Miami, Florida 33137  
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South Dade Law Center  
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**Legal Services  
of Greater Miami, Inc.**

**Vision Statement**

We are passionately committed to Equal Justice. Through aggressive advocacy and innovative collaboration with our community partners, we strive to empower our clients and alleviate the hardships of poverty.



[www.lsgmi.org](http://www.lsgmi.org)

**Legal Services  
of Greater Miami, Inc.**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION  
ADVOCACY PROJECT**

**FREE LEGAL SERVICES IN  
SPECIAL EDUCATION  
MATTERS**



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The Florida Bar Foundation,  
Shook, Hardy and Bacon, L.L.P. and  
District 4 Commissioner Sally Heyman

## **What is the Special Education Advocacy Project?**

Its purpose is to ensure that your child is receiving a free and meaningful education that meets his or her unique needs.

To help parents, Project attorneys:

(1) help parents get evaluations of their children; (2) represent parents at due process hearings; and (3) provide all other legal services to obtain the desired educational placement.

### **How do I know if my child is receiving a proper education?**

- ◆ Does your child have trouble reading?
- ◆ Does your child have trouble paying attention or completing tasks?
- ◆ Does your child have trouble understanding what he sees or hears?
- ◆ Does your child have poor test

scores?

- ◆ Is your child's class work too easy for him?
- ◆ Does your child seem bored with school?

If you answered "YES" to any of these questions, your child's current placement may not meet his needs.

### **What are my rights?**

- ◆ You have the right to ask the school to test your child for free if you think your child needs special education services, or if the services he is receiving are not working.
- ◆ You have the right to request a free test of your child by someone you choose, if you feel the school's test results are wrong.
- ◆ You have the right to receive copies of your child's school records.
- ◆ You have the right to participate in the development of your child's Individualized Educational Plan.

- ◆ You have the right to be helped by an attorney or advocate if you disagree with the education program provided to your child.

**Who may be a client of the Special Education Advocacy Project?**

- ◆ If you reside in Miami Dade County, have a low-income, and your child is enrolled in the Miami Dade County Public School District, you may be eligible to be a client of the Special Education Advocacy Project.

**How do I become a client?**

- ◆ Call our Main Office at 305-576-0080 or our South Dade Law Center at 305-232-9680 for more information.

**What do I bring to my interview?**

- ◆ If available, a copy of your child's Individualized Educational Plan.
- ◆ If available, a copy of the most recent school evaluation report.
- ◆ If you are an immigrant, proof of your immigration status.

