



Special Education Advocacy Training Program

Elevate Your Advocacy. Master the Law. Create Better Outcomes for Students.

Advocates University is an intensive training program designed for parents, advocates, and professionals who want to understand and effectively navigate special education law under **IDEA and Section 504**.

This comprehensive course walks participants through the entire special education process—from **early identification to due process and litigation strategies**—with practical guidance from a Special Education Attorney.

COURSE DETAILS

Instructor:

James Gallini, Special Education Attorney

Cost:

\$900 if paid in full prior to start of the course

\$1000 if paid in four (4) installments of \$250

Format:

Live Interactive Zoom Sessions + On-Demand Lessons

All sessions recorded and available On-Demand if you miss a live session or two

Schedule:

Tuesdays & Thursdays

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM CST

Course Dates:

March 24 – May 21, 2026

Class Size:

Limited to 25 participants to ensure individual interaction and discussion.

Recordings:

All sessions are recorded for on-demand access if you miss classes for any reason. This class was developed for busy families and the unexpected.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

Participants will gain practical knowledge and strategies covering:

Early Identification & Eligibility

- Early Intervention (Part C vs Part B IDEA)
- Child Find requirements
- Evaluations and eligibility categories
- Referral meetings and evaluation timelines

Understanding the Law

- Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
- Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)
- Procedural safeguards and parental rights

Building and Developing Effective IEPs

- How IEPs are developed and implemented
- Present levels of performance and measurable goals
- Related services and educational methodology

Evaluations & Testing

- Psychological and educational evaluations
- Interpreting assessment data
- Independent Educational Evaluations (IEEs)

Behavior & Discipline

- Functional Behavior Assessments (FBA)
- Behavior Intervention Plans (BIP)
- Manifestation determinations and disciplinary protections

Dispute Resolution & Enforcement

- State complaints and OCR complaints
- Mediation and facilitation
- Due process hearings
- Judicial remedies and legal actions

Advanced Advocacy Strategies

- Writing effective complaints
- Preparing for due process hearings
- Developing appropriate services and supports for students

Participants will also learn how to translate legal knowledge into **effective advocacy strategies during IEP meetings and disputes.**

COURSE MATERIALS

Recommended text:

The Answer Book on Special Education Law (6th Edition)

This book provides additional legal reference material used throughout the course. There are a limited number of books that we bought in bulk that can be purchased directly from us at a lower price than what can be found online. First come, first served.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The program includes:

- Live instruction and discussion
- On-demand lessons for foundational topics
- A midterm exam and comprehensive final exam that you self-grade
- Real-world case analysis and Q&A sessions with James Gallini

Participants who complete the course receive a **Certificate of Completion and a ¼ Zip Advocates University pullover.**

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Advocates University is designed for:

- Parents navigating special education services
- Parent advocates
- Education professionals
- Consultants and advocates seeking deeper legal knowledge and practical strategy guidance

State Complaints and Due Process Complaints

Procedural violations vs Substantive Violations and which Complaint option is better

Making a clear and unemotional presentation and argument

Knowing what evidence you need and where to source it

How to write effective complaints and in a linear manner to tell your child's story

What is corrective action, compensatory services and what to ask for and how NOT to go overboard

The requirement to justify and prove your requests for compensatory, programs, tuition and/or reimbursements... a common error made by parents, advocates and new attorneys

No legal background is required.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Course Instructor:

James Gallini

jgallini@advocatesuniversity.com

Course Administration:

admin@advocatesuniversity.com (Martina Forystek and Liz Gallagher)

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- ✓ Live instruction
 - ✓ Practical advocacy strategies and how to navigate around the 'no'
 - ✓ Legal foundations explained clearly along with their practical application in schools
 - ✓ Limited class size for meaningful and individualized participation

Advocates University — Building confident, informed advocates.

REGISTER AT:

<http://eepurl.com/ilsa35>