



Sponsor a Workshop in Your County

STEP relies on members of local communities to help us bring the workshops we offer to every county! We believe in supporting local communities by increasing opportunities for parents, caregivers, and community agencies to become actively involved. Sponsoring a workshop is a great way to increase access to accurate, reliable information to those in your community.

Q: What is a workshop sponsor, and who can be one?

A: Anyone can sponsor a STEP workshop who desires to assist in bringing quality information to their community about the rights of children with disabilities. Sponsors are often parents, support group leaders, and agency representatives. Agencies and businesses may sponsor a workshop with the understanding that parents must be invited to attend. In-service training is available to school systems for a fee or FREE if parents are included in the training with the school personnel.

Q: What do I have to do if I volunteer to sponsor a workshop?

A: Find an accessible meeting place in your area, perhaps a school, business, or church. Then advertise the workshop using a media package that STEP will provide to you. This includes press releases, radio releases, and flyers. Most newspapers and radio stations will run these free of charge. Sponsors are often the contact for the workshop and provide a number for participants to call and register for the workshop. The day before the workshop we call to get a count. We provide the materials; sponsors sometimes provide snacks!

Q: Do you require a certain number of people attend a workshop before you will come?

A: We prefer to have at least five people registered.

Q: What workshops are available?

A: Our core workshops include:

- Introduction to IDEA 2004 (BASIC Special Education Rights)
 - English and Spanish
- The Six Principles of IDEA (a condensed workshop on IDEA)
 - English and Spanish
- Early Childhood Transitions
- Section 504 Anti-Discrimination
- Inclusion and Least Restrictive Environment
- Transition to Adult Life
- Communication, Negotiation and Conflict Resolution
- IEP Development and Goal Writing
- Follow Up Question and Answer Open Forum
- Skills for Effective Advocacy Workshop
 - English and Spanish
- Parents As Leaders: Increasing Your Involvement and Making Change in Your Community
 - English and Spanish

Full workshop descriptions are available on our website at www.tnstep.org

Workshops are typically three hours long, with a break in the middle.
Workshops can be customized for your group.

Who do I contact to schedule a workshop?

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| West TN: | 901-726-4334 | westrtc@tnstep.org |
| Middle TN: | 615-463-2310 | middlertc@tnstep.org |
| Español: | 800-975-2919 | patricia.valladares@tnstep.org |
| East TN: | 423-639-0125 | eastrtc@tnstep.org |

For statewide calendar of other trainings and workshops that may be of interest, visit www.tnpathfinder@vanderbilt.org