

Hearing vs. Informal Settlement Conference (ISC)

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The purpose of this document is to appraise you of the difference between a Hearing and an Informal Settlement Conference.

	<u>Informal Settlement Conference</u>	<u>Hearing</u>
Can I Represent Myself?	YES	YES
Do the standard Rules of Evidence apply?	Not Necessarily	Not Necessarily
Who Decides the Case?	ADE and the Parent/Guardian will informally try to come to an agreement on the appeal.	Administrative Law Judge
May statements be used later?	NO. Anything said at the Informal Settlements Conference cannot be repeated at the hearing.	YES. The parent may choose to repeat anything said.
Can I Appeal the Board's Decision?	NO. The Parent would be agreeing with ADE on certain terms that would result in withdrawing the appeal.	YES

How do I request an Informal Settlement Conference?

A hearing date has already been scheduled by SBE. If you're interested in trying an Informal Settlement Conference, submit a request of ADE at least 20 days before the scheduled hearing date and copy the State Board on your emailed request (esaappeals@azsbe.az.gov):

Email: esaappeals@azed.gov

Mail: Arizona Department of Education, Attn: ESA Appeals

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