



My Education Advocate
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This contract for services agreement (**revised as of 1/31/2020**) is made between _____ (referred to as “the client” or “you”), and Kristen Heyniger of **My Education Advocate, referred to as “Kristen Heyniger”**.

Specific Services to be provided:

Kristen Heyniger agrees to provide skilled and experienced advocacy services on behalf of your child: _____

These services may include: **a)** Accompanying you to any meetings with the school, school system or Department of Education. **b)** Reviewing your child’s educational records and assisting you in understanding what the records state. **c)** Educating you about both your State and the Federal laws (re) your child’s special education rights. **d)** Observing your child in the school and/or home setting and make recommendations @ IEP goals, services and placement. **e)** assisting you in identifying additional resources such as private evaluators, therapists and psychologists that may be able to further assist you.

Services not covered by this contractual agreement:

Although My Education Advocate offers skilled advocacy services, Kristen Heyniger is not held out as an expert in the fields of psychology, law or medicine. It is expressly understood by the client that services provided by My Education Advocate are not to be construed as legal advice. **My Education Advocate and Kristen Heyniger cannot, in any circumstances, act as your attorney.** In signing this agreement for services, the client understands that Kristen Heyniger cannot guarantee or promise any specific desired outcome or result for your child’s particular case.

Client’s Responsibility:

You agree to the following:

1. Communicate fully and honestly with Kristen Heyniger, providing all information that would aid her in assisting you with your child’s case.
2. Make payments to My Education Advocate as provided in this contractual agreement **by due date** indicated on the monthly invoice sent to client(s) at the end of each month. **(see page 2- fee schedule).**
3. Give Kristen Heyniger a minimum of 24 hours’ notice if you must cancel your attendance at a previously-scheduled meeting or appointment. **Failure to do so may result in applicable fees being charged to the client.**
4. Notify Kristen Heyniger at least 48 hours in advance of any scheduled school system-based meetings. Kristen will confirm her attendance to you within 24 hours of the notification either by phone or email.

Confidentiality:

Kristen Heyniger agrees to keep all client information and any records confidential. This contractual agreement serves as a waiver of confidentiality regarding your child’s IEP and educational needs. This waiver permits Kristen Heyniger-Special Education Advocate, to obtain and review independently and with you, your child’s educational records, reports, IEP’s and evaluations.

It is the philosophy of Kristen Heyniger to work cooperatively with the local education association (LEA), in an effort to establish positive working relationships on behalf of the student, the parent(s) and their community support system. Kristen Heyniger of “My Education Advocate”, operates under the principals of collaborative problem solving and management of conflict in a non-adversarial manner and expects the same of the client(s).

Fee schedule:

Provision of services will be performed solely by Kristen Heyniger of **My Education Advocate**. Services are billed at an hourly rate. **There is no charge for the first 30 minutes of consultation, whether it is by phone or in person.** The charge for transportation to/from the initial consultation (if it is conducted in person) is .50 cents per mile.

Billing rates are as follows:

- (a) A retainer fee of **\$200.00** will commence with the signing of this contract. Please send a check, made out to **My Education Advocate** to the address at the top of the first page. The retainer will be used towards anticipated services and will be reflected on the first invoice sent to the client(s).
- (b) Direct attendance at meetings, in-school observations, student interviews & any other personal, direct representation done by Kristen Heyniger on behalf of the client- **rate is \$150.00/hour.**
- (c) Educational record reviews completed by Kristen Heyniger in preparation for a scheduled school system meeting are billed at the rate of **\$75.00/hour.** This includes a pre-meeting summary sheet prepared and given to client(s) by Kristen Heyniger, outlining the purpose, goal(s) and issues to be addressed prior to a scheduled meeting.
- (d) There is no charge for **phone calls** up to 15 minutes (after initial consultation). Phone calls that are longer than 15 minutes, **rate is \$30.00/hour.**
- (c) Mileage to/from any meetings is billed at **.50 cents per mile.** In usual circumstances, the mileage will begin from Fairfax, VA.
- (f) A **\$25.00 fee** will apply to any returned checks.
- (g) Kristen Heyniger will provide the client(s)a detailed billing statement at the end of each month for record-keeping purposes.

When Payments are Due:

(h) Invoices will be sent to client(s) at the end of each month. Payment is due to Kristen Heyniger upon receipt of the monthly invoice, absent any mutually agreed-upon arrangements that have been previously agreed to by Kristen Heyniger and the client which have been put into writing and signed by both parties. **The latest date payment should be sent is by the 15th of the following month the client receives the billing invoice.**

(i) Outstanding balances delinquent for more than one month from the statement date **will be subject to a late fee of \$10.00** for the first month, with the fee increasing by \$5.00 for each subsequent month, unless prior arrangements have been made by the client(s) and Kristen Heyniger for an agreed-upon payment plan, which both parties have agreed to via signatures on a payment plan contract.

Termination of Services:

You may terminate this services agreement at any time, provided you have paid for all services delivered by Kristen Heyniger/ My Education Advocate. Kristen Heyniger /My Education Advocate may terminate this contract at any time in the event of nonpayment of fees or in the event irreconcilable differences between Kristen Heyniger and the client(s) develop.

Signature:

By signing this services agreement, you acknowledge that you have read and understand this agreement and agree to all its provisions.

Client (s): _____,

Date: _____

Kristen Heyniger/ My Education Advocate: _____

Date: _____

