

When a Decision Doesn't Go Your Way



What If I Don't Get What I Want?

You have just been through a very thorough self-advocacy process. Congratulations on your hard work and persistence. However, you still may not have been able to get what you wanted. This page suggests a few options that you can consider.

- Make an appeal
- Contact a supervisor or someone higher up who can make decisions
- Give up on this issue and start again with another issue that is important to you
- Support a group that is advocating for changes in laws, policies and regulations

Appealing a Decision

If you are not satisfied with the results you get when you advocate for yourself, you need to ask if there is an appeal process.

If there is a formal appeal process, ask:

Are there appeal forms?

Where can I get them?

Do I have to appeal within a certain period of time? What is it?

If there is no formal appeal process, ask for:

The name of a supervisor you call contact about this situation, or a government department that handles complaints about that agency.

Name:

Phone Number:

Address:

Letting It Go

You have put a lot of work into this. You may feel that it is just too much effort to keep going on this issue. You could go back to your list of issues and choose another one to work on. The next time it won't take as much work - you already know how to advocate for yourself.

Support and Advocacy Groups

Sometimes it doesn't matter how hard you work, you just can't get past the law or policy that is keeping you from getting what you want. Other people are probably experiencing the same difficulties. Join with them to work for change.