



Continuum of Services

Least Restrictive Environment

Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) refers to the extent special education services are provided to a student in a setting with the student's peers that do not have a disability and as close to the student's home as possible. The continuum of services identifies different service delivery models to provide specially designed instruction to a student with a disability. Some of the services such as consultation and co-teaching services are directly designed to support the student in his/her general education class. Others may or may not be provided in settings with nondisabled peers, depending on the needs of the student. This is why the documentation of "location" in the IEP is important. The continuum of placement options is also directly related to LRE placement decisions.

Special Education Services Inside the General Education Curriculum

Resource Services

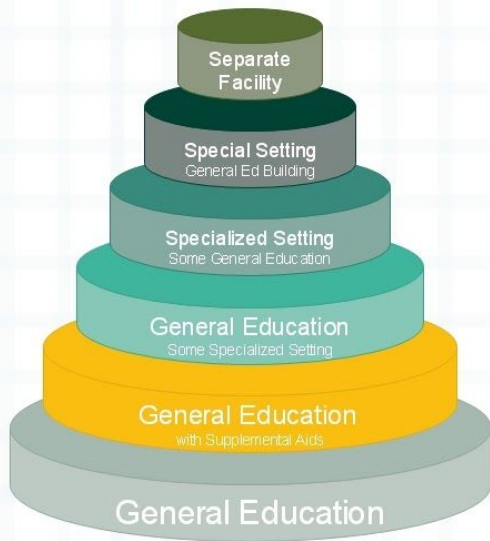
Special Education at the resource level of support is provided by a special education teacher within the general education classroom, in a setting outside of the general education classroom, or a combination of both. The location of the service is dependent on the level of support that the student requires and will be discussed by the IEP team. Every school in the district has this level of service available.

Self-Contained Classrooms

Self-contained classrooms are designed to allow a more intensive level of special education instruction that typically spans several class subjects. It can also assist those students who need regulation strategies in order to be available for the learning process. This level of service can sometimes be delivered in the student's zone school, but oftentimes it is necessary to attend the school closest to your zoned school that provides that level of support. The IEP team will discuss the various options and make the best decision for your student.

Below is a visual representation of some of the levels in the continuum of special education services:

Special Education Continuum of Services



- Separate Facility**
100% of the day in Special Education
In a Separate Public or Private School (EE Code 4 or 5)
- Specialized Setting**
100% in Special Education
in a General Education Building (EE Code 3)
- Specialized Setting**
Majority of the day in Special Education
Some General Education Classes (EE Code 2)
- General Education - Majority of the Day**
Majority of the Day in General Education
Some Special Education Pull Out (EE Code 1)
- General Education**
General Education
with Supplementary Aids and Services (EE Code 1)
- General Education**
General Education
with No Supplementary Aids and Services