

Terms Used in the CCPS Special Education Program Staffing Plan

(Note: Since different terms are sometimes understood differently, these definitions are provided as clarification regarding the terms throughout this plan. There is no intent that these definitions must be accepted as standardized, but are simply to assist understanding the recommendations of this report.)

Caseload — the number of students assigned to a teacher, clinician, or therapist, as well as the other work tasks for which the individual is responsible.

COMAR — Code of Maryland Regulations. Title 13 of COMAR includes all regulations adopted by State Board of Education for the provision of public education to students in the state of Maryland. Within Title 13A, the following chapters are specifically applicable to students with disabilities:

- COMAR 13A.05.01 Provision of a Free Appropriate Education
- COMAR 13A.05.02 Administration of Services for Students with Disabilities
- COMAR 13A.08.03 Discipline of Students with Disabilities
- COMAR 13A.08.04 Student Behavioral Interventions

Consultation — services provided by someone who give professional advice and/or assistance to the classroom teacher.

Continuum of services — a progression of special education services ranging from least to most restrictive.

Department — the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)

FAPE (free appropriate public education) — special education and related services that (a) have been provided at public expense, under public supervision and direction, and without charge; (b) meet the state and federal requirements; (c) include an appropriate preschool, elementary or secondary school education, and (d) are provided in conformity with the individualized education program (IEP) as required under Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA).

Individualized Education Program (IEP) — a written description of the special education and related services provided for a student with a disability that is developed, reviewed, and revised in accordance with IDEA.

Instructional Delivery — the method for delivering special education services, and includes:

Direct services — those services provided to the student

Indirect services — those services provided to general education teachers, parents, instructional assistants and others on behalf of the student

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) — a law that makes available a free appropriate public education to eligible children with disabilities throughout the nation and ensures special education and related services to those children

LRE (Least Restrictive Environment) — an educational environment which best meets the needs of a student requiring special education and related services as set forth in the student's IEP and which to the maximum extent appropriate to the student's needs, ensures that the student will be educated with non-disabled peers. LRE is individually determined for each child. LRE requires the school system to maintain a full continuum of placement options to meet the needs of each child.

Related Services — transportation and such developmental, corrective, and other supportive services as may be required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education (including speech-language pathology and audiology, psychological services, physical and occupational therapy, recreation, therapeutic recreation, social work services, counseling services, orientation and mobility services, and medical services for diagnostic and evaluation purposes only). The early identification and assessment of disabling conditions in children is also included.

Special Education — specially designed instruction, at no cost to parents, to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability, including (a) instruction conducted in the classroom, in the home, in hospitals and institutions, and in other settings; and (b) instruction in physical education.

Supplementary Aids and Services — aids, services, and other supports that are provided in general education classes or to other education-related settings to enable children with disabilities to be educated with non-disabled children to the maximum extent appropriate in accordance with section 612(a)(5) of IDEA.