



# Special Education Services

## Special Education Acronyms

Acronyms	Definitions
<b>Accessibility</b>	Accessibility is the “ability to access” the functionality and benefit of some system or entity. This term is used to describe the degree to which a product (such as a device, a service, or an environment) is accessible by as many people as possible.
<b>Accommodations</b>	Accommodations are adaptations made for specific individuals with disabilities (as defined by law) when a product or service isn’t accessible.
<b>Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)</b>	Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) is a mediation for the resolution of complaints between parents and school district personnel in a cooperative forum of problem-solving conducted by skilled neutral facilitators who are not District employees.
<b>Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)</b>	The ADA is a federal civil rights law that provides legal protections for individuals with disabilities from discrimination in employment, state and local government, public accommodations, commercial facilities, telecommunications, and transportation. Title II of the ADA requires schools to make educational opportunities, extracurricular activities, and facilities open and accessible to all students. These provisions apply to brick-and-mortar and online schooling.
<b>Assessment</b>	The description of the battery of tests (psychological, achievement, language, etc.) to be used in a particular student's assessment.
<b>Assistive Technology</b>	Assistive technology (AT) is any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of a child with a disability.
<b>Alternative Augmentative Communication (AAC)</b>	Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) includes all forms of communication (other than oral speech) that are used to express thoughts, needs, wants, and ideas.
<b>Community Advisory Council for Special Education (CAC)</b>	A group of parents of children with disabilities, members of the community, students and special education professionals who advise the school board and school district administration about special education programs.
<b>Coordination of Services Team (COST)</b>	The learning support umbrella structure that brings together all support service providers at a school site. The COST develops and monitors programs and resources that enhance prevention and intervention efforts contributing to student success.
<b>Distance Learning</b>	Distance learning involves how students engage in learning and make academic progress when they are not physically present in schools. This is accomplished using a variety of digital and print resources, and differentiated modes of interaction with teachers and peers, when possible. How teachers engage students in distance learning is informed by the student’s access to technology and the internet.

<b>Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)</b>	Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), a cornerstone of the IDEA, our nation's special education law, is that each eligible child with a disability is entitled to a FAPE that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet the child's unique needs and that prepares the child for further education, employment, and independent living.
<b>Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act</b>	The nation's main law governing specific rights of K–12 students with disabilities (and a civil rights law), IDEA entitles all public school students to a free appropriate public education (FAPE). Students suspected of having a disability have the right to a free evaluation, and students deemed eligible for special education have the right to special education and related services.
<b>Individualized Education Program (IEP)</b>	An IEP is a plan developed to ensure that a child who has a disability identified under the law and is attending an elementary or secondary educational institution receives specialized instruction and related services.
<b>Least restrictive environment (LRE)</b>	A term meaning that children with disabilities must be educated (to the maximum extent appropriate) with children without disabilities.
<b>Non-public school (NPS)</b>	A private placement under contract with the district and certified by the state, to service pupils with disabilities whose needs cannot be served by the special education programs offered within the District.
<b>Prior Written Notice (PWN)</b>	A Prior Written Notice ( <b>PWN</b> ) is a document that informs ( <i>provides notice to</i> ) a parent/guardian/education rights holder of actions that the school intends to take in regard to their child's Individualized Education Program
<b>Related Services</b>	Related services is the term for those services a disabled child needs in order to benefit from special education. Related services include speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and rehabilitation counseling are related services. Transportation to school is a related service.
<b>Resource Specialist Program (RSP)</b>	Students who can participate in regular education may also receive special education instruction in the RSP. These students can receive services within the classroom, or can be "pulled out" of the regular education classroom for special assistance during specific periods of the day or week and are taught by credentialed teachers with resource specialist authorization.
<b>SB 117</b>	SB-117 is emergency legislation signed by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020. SB-117 waived certain special education timelines in California, such as sending an assessment plan or responding to records requests.
<b>Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act</b>	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act prohibits discrimination in the education of children and youth with disabilities; vocational education; college and other post-secondary programs; employment; health, welfare and other social programs; and other programs and activities that receive federal funds.
<b>Special Day Class (SDC)</b>	Special education service setting comprised entirely of special education students.

<b>Special Education (SPED)</b>	Instruction or education that is required to meet the needs of children with special needs that cannot be supplied through modification in the regular education program.
<b>Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)</b>	The county office from which some special education services are funded.
<b>Student Success Team (SST)</b>	A regular education process designed to make preliminary modifications within the regular education program of a student not succeeding in class.

### Special Education Acronyms

<b>504</b>	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
<b>AAC</b>	Alternative Augmentative Communication
<b>ABA</b>	Applied Behavior Analysis
<b>ADA</b>	Americans with Disabilities Act
<b>ADA</b>	Average Daily Attendance
<b>ADHD</b>	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
<b>ADR</b>	Alternative Dispute Resolution
<b>ALJ</b>	Administrative Law Judge
<b>APE</b>	Adapted Physical Education
<b>ASD</b>	Autism Spectrum Disorder
<b>ASL</b>	American Sign Language
<b>AT</b>	Assistive Technology
<b>BCBA</b>	Board Certified Behavior Analyst
<b>BIP</b>	Behavioral Intervention Plan
<b>CAASPP</b>	CA Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (formally STAR)
<b>CAC</b>	Community Advisory Committee
<b>CAHSEE</b>	CA High School Exit Examination
<b>CART</b>	Communication Access Realtime Translation
<b>CCR</b>	CA Code of Regulations
<b>CCS</b>	CA Children's Services
<b>CCSS</b>	Common Core State Standards
<b>CDE</b>	CA Department of Education
<b>CDS</b>	Community Day School
<b>CFR</b>	Code of Federal Regulations
<b>CMH</b>	County Mental Health
<b>DHH</b>	Deaf and Hard of Hearing
<b>DIS</b>	Designated Instruction and Services (now Related Services)
<b>DMH</b>	Department of Mental Health

<b>DOJ</b>	Department of Justice
<b>DSM-5</b>	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (5 <sup>th</sup> Ed)
<b>ED</b>	Emotional Disturbance
<b>EHA</b>	Education for All Handicapped Children Act (predecessor to IDEA)
<b>EL</b>	English Learner
<b>ESL</b>	English as a Second Language
<b>ESY</b>	Extended School Year
<b>FAPE</b>	Free Appropriate Public Education
<b>FBA</b>	Functional Behavioral Assessment
<b>FERPA</b>	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
<b>HHI</b>	Home/Hospital Instruction
<b>HI</b>	Health Impairment
<b>IA</b>	Instructional Aide
<b>IAES</b>	Interim Alternative Education Setting
<b>ID</b>	Intellectual Disability
<b>IDEA</b>	Individuals with Disabilities Act
<b>IEE</b>	Independent Education Evaluation
<b>IEP</b>	Individualized Education Program
<b>IFSP</b>	Individualized Family Services Plan
<b>IS</b>	Independent Study
<b>ISA</b>	Individual Services Agreement
<b>ISP</b>	Individualized Service Plan
<b>ITP</b>	Individualized Transition Plan
<b>LCI</b>	Licensed Children's Institution
<b>LEA</b>	Local Education Agency
<b>LEP</b>	Limited English Proficient
<b>LRE</b>	Least Restrictive Environment
<b>MD</b>	Manifestation Determination

<b>NCLB</b>	No Child Left Behind (Act)
<b>NPA</b>	Nonpublic Agency
<b>NPS</b>	Nonpublic School
<b>O &amp; M</b>	Orientation and Mobility
<b>OAH</b>	Office of Administrative Hearings
<b>OCD</b>	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
<b>OCR</b>	Office of Civil Rights
<b>ODD</b>	Oppositional Defiant Disorder
<b>OHI</b>	Other Health Impairment
<b>OI</b>	Orthopedic Impairment
<b>OSEP</b>	Office of Special Education Programs
<b>OSERS</b>	Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services
<b>OT</b>	Occupational Therapy
<b>PDD</b>	Pervasive Developmental Disorder
<b>PBIS</b>	Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports
<b>PRT</b>	Pivotal Response Therapy
<b>PWN</b>	Prior Written Notice
<b>RSP</b>	Resource Specialist Program
<b>RTI</b>	Response to Intervention
<b>SAI</b>	Specialized Academic Instruction
<b>SBAC</b>	Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium
<b>SBE</b>	State Board of Education
<b>SCIA</b>	Special Circumstance Instructional Assistant
<b>SEA</b>	State Education Agency
<b>SELPA</b>	Special Education Local Plan Area
<b>SLD</b>	Specific Learning Disability
<b>SLI</b>	Speech of Language Impairment
<b>SST</b>	Student Study Team
<b>STAR</b>	Standardized Testing and Reporting (replaced by CAASPP)
<b>SWD</b>	Students with Disabilities
<b>TBI</b>	Traumatic Brain Injury

<b>TEACCH</b>	Treatment & Education of Autistic & Related Communication Handicapped Children
<b>USC</b>	United States Code
<b>USDOE</b>	United States Department of Education
<b>VI</b>	Visual Impairment