

# Disability Categories

# Information

# CHILD FIND Special Education

Santa Clara SELPAs I, II, III, IV, & VII



- Autism
- Deaf-Blindness
- Emotionally Disturbed
- Hearing Impairment including Deafness
- Intellectual Disability
- Language/Speech Disorder
- Multiple Disabilities
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Other Health Impairment
- Specific Learning Disability
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Visual Impairment

### Santa Clara County SELPAs I, II, III, IV, VII

[www.sccoe.selpa.org](http://www.sccoe.selpa.org)  
(408) 453-6960

### Southeast Consortium for SpEd:

<http://southeastselfpa.org/>  
(408) 223-3771

### San Andreas Regional Center:

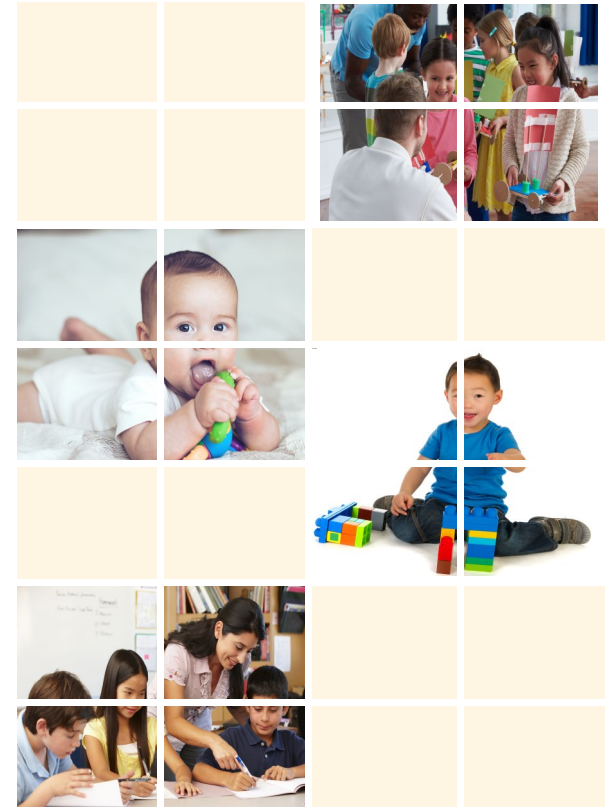
[www.sanandreasregional.org](http://www.sanandreasregional.org)  
(408) 374-9960

### Santa Clara County Early Start

(for children 0-3 years of age):  
[www.sccoe.org/depts/students/Pages/earlystart.aspx](http://www.sccoe.org/depts/students/Pages/earlystart.aspx)  
(408) 392-3801

### School District Locator

(for children 3 years or older):  
[www.sccoe.org/resources/families/Pages/School-District-Locator.aspx](http://www.sccoe.org/resources/families/Pages/School-District-Locator.aspx)



# Child Find

# Referral



## What is “Child Find”?

The purpose of Child Find is to identify, locate, and evaluate children and adults birth through 21 years of age who are suspected of having or have a diagnosed disability or developmental delay in order to provide appropriate special education services under the law.

## What is Special Education?

Special Education is instruction designed to meet the unique learning needs of the individual student with disabilities from ages 3 to 22 years of age. It is defined as:

- specially designated instruction
- at no cost to parents
- to meet the unique needs of a child with disability

Special Education services may be provided in a variety of educational settings, but are required by IDEA to be delivered in the least restrictive environment.

## When can a Child be Referred to Special Education?

A child can be referred when:

- A health or a medical disorder interferes with development and/or learning
- A child seems to have difficulty seeing or hearing
- A child appears to have social, emotional or behavioral difficulties that affect his/her ability to learn or interact with others
- A child has a diagnosed progressive or degenerative condition that will eventually impair or impede the child’s ability to learn
- A child seems to have difficulty understanding directions like others that are his/her age
- The child’s speech is not understood by family or friends

*Note: A pupil shall be referred for special education instruction and services only after the resources of the regular education program have been considered and, where appropriate, utilized.*

## How can Children be Referred?

A referral may be made by a parent or by any person concerned about a child. Parent involvement and agreement is obtained prior to any further action. Information is confidential and the privacy of children and parents is protected.

## Who is Eligible for Services?

A student must be evaluated and identified as having a disability to be eligible for special education programs and related services. Depending upon the degree of the student’s impairment, they may require special education and/or related services.

