

SPECIAL EDUCATION ACRONYMS

The following terms are often used by educational professionals. Frequently the acronyms are used instead of the entire term. This list is intended to provide a better understanding of what can otherwise seem like “Alphabet Soup.”

504	Section 504 of the Rehabilitations Act of 1973
AAC	Alternative Augmentative Communication
ABA	Applied Behavior Analysis
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADA	Average Daily Attendance
ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
ALJ	Administrative Law Judge
APE	Adaptive Physical Education
ASD	Autism Spectrum Disorder
ASL	American Sign Language
AT	Assistive Technology
BCBA	Board Certified Behavior Analyst
BIP	Behavioral Intervention Plan
CAASPP	California Assessment of Student Performance & Progress
CAC	Community Advisory Committee
CART	Communication Access Realtime Translation
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CCS	California Children’s Services
CDE	California Department of Education
CDS	Community Day School

CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
DHH	Deaf and Hard of Hearing
DOJ	Department of Justice
DSM-5	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (5th Edition)
ED	Emotional Disturbance
EHA	Education for All Handicapped Children Act (predecessor to IDEA)
EL	English Learner
ESL	English as a Second Language
ESY	Extended School Year
FAPE	Free Appropriate Public Education
FBA	Functional Behavioral Assessment
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
HHI	Home/Hospital Instruction
IA	Instructional Aide
IAES	Interim Alternative Educational Setting
ID	Intellectual Disability
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IEE	Independent Educational Evaluation
IEP	Individualized Education Program
IFSP	Individualized Family Services Plan
IS	Independent Study
ISA	Individual Services Agreement
ISP	Individualized Service Plan
ITP	Individualized Transition Plan
IWEN	Individual with Exceptional Needs
LCI	Licensed Children's Institution

LEA	Local Education Agency
LEP	Limited English Proficient
LRE	Least Restrictive Environment
MD	Manifestation Determination
NPA	Nonpublic Agency
NPS	Nonpublic School
O & M	Orientation and Mobility
OAH	Office of Administrative Hearings
OCD	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
OCR	Office for Civil Rights
ODD	Oppositional Defiant Disorder
OHI	Other Health Impairment
OI	Orthopedic Impairment
OSEP	Office of Special Education Programs
OSERS	Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services
OT	Occupational Therapy
PDD	Pervasive Developmental Disorder
PWN	Prior Written Notice
RSP	Resource Specialist Program
RTI	Response to Intervention
SAI	Specialized Academic Instruction
SBE	State Board of Education
SEA	State Education Agency
SELPA	Special Education Local Plan Area
SLD	Specific Learning Disability
SLI	Speech or Language Impairment

SST	Student Study Team
SWD	Students with Disabilities
TBI	Traumatic Brain Injury
USC	United States Code
USDOE	United States Department of Education
VI	Visual Impairment