

Special Education Disability Categories

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

Contact Information

Mid-Cities SELPA

www.mid-citiesselpa.org
(562) 866-9011 ext. 2050



Member Districts

Bellflower Unified School District

16703 S. Clark Avenue
Bellflower, CA 90706
spedstudentsupport@busd.k12.ca.us
(562) 866-9011 Ext. 2020

Lynwood Unified School District

11321 Bullis Road
Lynwood, CA 90262
SpEdChildFind@mylUSD.org
(310) 866-1600

Paramount Unified School District

15110 California Avenue
Paramount, CA 90723
Jmurillo@paramount.k12.ca.us
(562) 602-6033

Regional Centers

Harbor Regional Center (Serving Bellflower and Paramount Unified School Districts)

www.harborrc.org
(310) 543-0100

South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (Serving Lynwood and Paramount Unified School Districts)

www.sclarc.org
(213) 744-8882

District & Resource Locator

(Children 3 Years or Older)

<https://www.lacoe.edu/education/districts>

Los Angeles County Inclusive ECE (Children 0-3 Years of Age)

www.inclusiveece.org
(562) 940-1770



CHILD FIND Special Education

If you suspect that your child or a child in your care may have a disability or special need(s) that may be affecting their academic, behavioral or developmental progress, state and local resources are available for support and guidance.

What is “Child Find”?

Child Find is a legal requirement under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to identify, locate, and assess children and young adults, from birth through age 21 who are suspected of having a disability, to provide appropriate special education services.

Who qualifies for Child Find?

Child Find applies to all children who reside within our geographic boundaries, including:

- Children enrolled in public, private, or home schools
- Children who are unhoused or wards of the state
- Children who are advancing from grade to grade but are suspected of having a disability

Why is it important?

Child Find is essential in identifying students with disabilities early so they can receive the support and special education services they need. Timely identification allows for early interventions, thus improving a child’s development, learning, and overall future opportunities. Without Child Find, many children could be overlooked and miss the essential support they need to succeed.

What is Special Education?

Special Education is specially designed instruction, at no cost to parents, to meet the unique learning needs of students with disabilities ages 3 to 22. Special education services may be provided in a variety of education settings, but are required by IDEA to be delivered in the least restrictive environment.

How does Child Find work?

1. **Identification and Referral:** If you suspect that a child has a disability, you can make a referral to your local school district. Referrals can come from parents, teachers, doctors, or any concerned individuals.
2. **Eligibility Determination:** An evaluation is required when a student is initially being considered for special education. The school district will conduct an assessment to determine whether the student’s unique needs require special education and related services. It is possible for a student to have a disability but does not require special education services.
3. **Developing an Individualized Education Program (IEP):** If the child is determined to be eligible, an IEP is developed to outline the specific services and supports the child will receive.



When can a child be referred to special education?

A child should 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

Concerns need not be limited to those listed above. Any condition which may affect a child’s ability to learn can be a basis for referral.

Under California Education Code 56303, general education resources must be considered and, where appropriate, utilized prior to referral for special education services. However, such interventions may not be used to delay or deny a referral or evaluation, consistent with guidance from the Office of Special Education Programs.

How can a child be referred?

Referrals are typically made to the local school district, and can be made by a parent or by any person concerned about a child. Parent consent is obtained prior to any further action. Information is confidential and the privacy of children and parents is protected.