

Common Special Education Acronyms

Quick Reference Guide

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act
ADHD Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
ASL American Sign Language
ASD Autism Spectrum Disorder
AT Assistive Technology
AYP Adequate Yearly Progress
BIP Behavioral Intervention Plan
CEC Council for Exceptional Children
COTA Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant
CP Cerebral Palsy
PDD Pervasive Development Disorder
DB Deaf-Blind
DD Developmental Delay
DSM-IV Diagnostic and Statistical Manual IV
ED Emotional Disturbance
EI Early Intervention
ESY Extended School Year
FAPE Free Appropriate Public Education
FBA Functional Behavior Assessment
FERPA Family Education Rights and Privacy Act
GT Gifted and Talented
HIPAA Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act
IDEA Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IEP Individual Education Program
IFSP Individual Family Service Plan

IHCP Individualized Health Care Plan
ID Intellectual Disability
IQ Intelligence Quotient
LEA Local Education Agency
LEP Limited English Proficiency
LRE Least Restrictive Environment
NASDSE National Association of State Directors of Special Education
NCLB No Child Left Behind
OCR Office for Civil Rights
OHI Other Health Impairment
OI Orthopedic Impairment
O&M Orientation and Mobility
OSEP Office of Special Education Programs
OSERS Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services
OT Occupational Therapy
PLAAFP Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance
PT Physical Therapist
RtI Response to Intervention
SEA State Education Agency
SIP State Improvement Plan
SL Speech Language
SLD Specific Learning Disability (also referred to as LD)
SLP Speech Language Pathologist
TBI Traumatic Brain Injury
TDD/TTY Telecommunications Device for the Deaf
USDE United States Department of Education
VI Visual Impairment