

ABCs of SPECIAL EDUCATION



This tip sheet is created to assist educational professionals, students, and parents in understanding acronyms specific to special education to facilitate a collaborative and student-focused special education process.

504	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973	CCSS	Common Core State Standards
AAC	Alternative Augmentative Communication	CDE	California Department of Education
ABA	Applied Behavior Analysis	CDS	Community Day School
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act	CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
ADA	Average Daily Attendance	CMH	County Mental Health
ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	DHH	Deaf and Hard of Hearing
ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution	DIS	Designated Instruction and Services (now Related Services)
ALJ	Administrative Law Judge	DMH	Department of Mental Health
APE	Adapted Physical Education	DOJ	Department of Justice
ASD	Autism Spectrum Disorder	DSM-5	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (5th Edition)
ASL	American Sign Language	ED	Emotional Disturbance
AT	Assistive Technology	EHA	Education for All Handicapped Children Act (predecessor to IDEA)
BCBA	Board Certified Behavior Analyst	EL	English Learner
BIP	Behavioral Intervention Plan	ESL	English as a Second Language
CAASPP	California Assessment of Student Performance & Progress (formerly STAR)	ESY	Extended School Year
CAC	Community Advisory Committee	FAPE	Free Appropriate Public Education
CAHSEE	California High School Exit Examination	FBA	Functional Behavioral Assessment
CART	Communication Access Realtime Translation	FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
CCR	California Code of Regulations	HHI	Home/Hospital Instruction
CCS	California Children's Services	HI	Health Impairment

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IA	Instructional Aide	OSEP	Office of Special Education Programs
IAES	Interim Alternative Educational Setting	OSERS	Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services
ID	Intellectual Disability	OT	Occupational Therapy
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	PDD	Pervasive Developmental Disorder
IEE	Independent Educational Evaluation	PBIS	Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports
IEP	Individualized Education Program	PRT	Pivotal Response Therapy
IFSP	Individualized Family Services Plan	PWN	Prior Written Notice
IS	Independent Study	RSP	Resource Specialist Program
ISA	Individual Services Agreement	RTI	Response to Intervention
ISP	Individualized Service Plan	SAI	Specialized Academic Instruction
ITP	Individualized Transition Plan	SBAC	Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium
LCI	Licensed Children’s Institution	SBE	State Board of Education
LEA	Local Education Agency	SCIA	Special Circumstance Instructional Assistant
LEP	Limited English Proficient	SEA	State Education Agency
LRE	Least Restrictive Environment	SELPA	Special Education Local Plan Area
MD	Manifestation Determination	SLD	Specific Learning Disability
NCLB	No Child Left Behind (Act)	SLI	Speech or Language Impairment
NPA	Nonpublic Agency	SST	Student Study Team
NPS	Nonpublic School	STAR	Standardized Testing and Reporting (replaced by CAASPP)
O & M	Orientation and Mobility	SWD	Students with Disabilities
OAH	Office of Administrative Hearings	TBI	Traumatic Brain Injury
OCD	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	TEACCH	Treatment & Education of Autistic & Related Communication Handicapped Children
OCR	Office for Civil Rights	USC	United States Code
ODD	Oppositional Defiant Disorder	USDOE	United States Department of Education
OHI	Other Health Impairment	VI	Visual Impairment
OI	Orthopedic Impairment		