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 Rehabilitations Act of 1973	CDE	California Department of Education	
AAC	Alternative Augmentative Communication	CDS	Community Day School	
ABA	Applied Behavior Analysis	CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act	DHH	Deaf and Hard of Hearing	
ADA	Average Daily Attendance	DOJ	Department of Justice	
ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	DSM-5	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (5th Edition)	
ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution	ED	Emotional Disturbance	
ALJ	Administrative Law Judge	EHA	Education for All Handicapped Children Act (predecessor to IDEA)	
APE	Adaptive Physical Education	EL	English Learner	
ASD	Autism Spectrum Disorder	ESL	English as a Second Language	
ASL	American Sign Language	ESY	Extended School Year	
AT	Assistive Technology	FAPE	Free Appropriate Public Education	
ВСВА	Board Certified Behavior Analyst	FBA	Functional Behavioral Assessment	
BIP	Behavioral Intervention Plan	FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act	
CAASPP	California Assessment of Student Performance & Progress	нні	Home/Hospital Instruction	
CAC	Community Advisory Committee	IA	Instructional Aide	
CART	Communication Access Realtime Translation	IAES	Interim Alternative Educational Setting	
CCR	California Code of Regulations	ID	Intellectual Disability	
ccs	California Children's Services	IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	

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IEE	Independent Educational Evaluation	OI	Orthopedic Impairment
IEP	Individualized Education Program	OSEP	Office of Special Education Programs
IFSP	Individualized Family Services Plan	OSERS	Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services
IS	Independent Study	ОТ	Occupational Therapy
ISA	Individual Services Agreement	PDD	Pervasive Developmental Disorder
ISP	Individualized Service Plan	PWN	Prior Written Notice
ITP	Individualized Transition Plan	RSP	Resource Specialist Program
IWEN	Individual with Exceptional Needs	RTI	Response to Intervention
LCI	Licensed Children's Institution	SAI	Specialized Academic Instruction
LEA	Local Education Agency	SBE	State Board of Education
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
NPA	Nonpublic Agency	SLI	Speech or Language Impairment
NPS	Nonpublic School	SST	Student Study Team
O & M	Orientation and Mobility	SWD	Students with Disabilities
ОАН	Office of Administrative Hearings	тві	Traumatic Brain Injury
OCD	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	USC	United States Code
OCR	Office for Civil Rights	USDOE	United States Department of Education
ODD	Oppositional Defiant Disorder	VI	Visual Impairment
ОНІ	Other Health Impairment		