

*A jargon buster  
to make special  
education more  
understandable.*

## Special Education Acronyms

Vermont Family Network is happy to provide you with this partial list of special education and disability related acronyms, many of which are commonly used both in conversation and writing.

**AAC/** Alternative Augmentative Communication  
**ABA/** Applied Behavioral Analysis  
**ABLE/** Achieving a Better Life Experience  
**ACEs/** Adverse Childhood Experiences  
**ADA/** Americans with Disabilities Act  
**ADD/ADHD/** Attention Deficit/Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder  
**ADL/** Activities of Daily Living  
**AOE/** Agency of Education  
**APE/** Adaptive Physical Education  
**APR/** Annual Performance Report  
**ASD/** Autism Spectrum Disorders  
**ASL/** American Sign Language  
**AT/** Assistive Technology  
**AYP/** Adequate Yearly Progress  
  
**BCBA/** Board Certified Behavior Analyst  
**BIP/** Behavioral Intervention Plan  
  
**CAPD/** Central Auditory Processing Disorder  
**CC/** Closed Captioning  
**CDC/** Child Development Clinic  
**CDCI/** Center on Disability and Community Inclusion  
**CIS/** Children's Integrated Services  
**CF/** Cystic Fibrosis  
**CFR/** Code of Federal Regulations  
**CP/** Cerebral Palsy

**CSHN/** Children with Special Health Needs  
**CSP/** Coordinated Service Plan  
**CPI/** Crisis Prevention Institute  
**CYSHCN/** Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs  
  
**DA/** Designated Agency  
**DD/** Developmental Disabilities  
**DDC/** Developmental Disabilities Council  
**DLP/** Disability Law Project  
**DSM/** Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders by the American Psychiatric Association  
  
**ECSE/** Early Childhood Special Education  
**ED/** Emotional Disturbance  
**ED/** U.S. Department of Education  
**ED/** Emergency Department  
**EI/** Early Intervention  
**ELL/** English Language Learner  
**EPSDT/** Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment  
**EPT/** Evaluation Planning Team  
**ESEA/** Elementary and Secondary Education Act  
**EST/** Educational Support Team  
**ESY/** Extended School Year  
  
**F2F/** Family to Family Health Information Center



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**FAPE/** Free Appropriate Public Education  
**FBA/** Functional Behavioral Assessment  
**FEL/** Foundations of Early Learning  
**FERPA/** Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act  
**FOIA/** Freedom of Information Act  
**FV/** Family Voices

**GenEd/** General Education

**HCBS/** Home and Community-Based Services  
**HIPAA/** Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act

**IA/** Instructional Assistant  
**IAES/** Interim Alternative Educational Setting  
**ID/** Intellectual Disabilities  
**IDEA/** Individuals with Disabilities Education Act  
**IEE/** Independent Educational Evaluation  
**IEP/** Individualized Education Program  
**IFSP/** Individualized Family Service Plan  
**IPE/** Individualized Plan for Employment

**LD/** Learning Disability  
**LEA/** Local Education Agency  
**LEP/** Limited English Proficiency  
**LIT/** Local Interagency Team  
**LRE/** Least Restrictive Environment

**MD or MH/** Multiple Disabilities or Multiply Handicapped  
**MDR/** Manifestation Determination Review  
**MTSS/** Multi-Tier System of Supports

**NIH/** National Institutes of Health  
**NIMH/** National Institute of Mental Health  
**NVLD/** Non-Verbal Learning Disorder  
**NAMI/** National Alliance on Mental Illness

**OCR/** Office of Civil Rights  
**OHI/** Other Health Impairment  
**OI/** Orthopedic Impairment  
**One Plan/** Individualized Family Service Plan

**OSEP/** Office of Special Education Programs  
**OT/** Occupational Therapy/Therapist

**P2P/** Parent to Parent  
**PBGR's/** Proficiency-Based Graduation Requirements  
**PBIS/** Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support  
**PCA/** Personal Care Attendant  
**PLAAFP/** Present Level of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance  
**PLP/** Personalized Learning Plans  
**POA/** Power of Attorney  
**Pre-ETS/** Pre-Employment Transition Services  
**PT/** Physical Therapy/Therapist  
**PTI/** Parent Training and Information Center

**RTI/** Response to Intervention  
**RBI/** Restrictive Behavioral Intervention

**SBE/** State Board of Education  
**SDI/** Specially Designed Instruction  
**SEA/** State Education Agency  
**SEAP/** Special Education Advisory Panel  
**SDM/** Supported Decision Making  
**Section 504/** Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act  
**SEL/** Social and Emotional Learning  
**SI/** Sensory Integration  
**SIT/** State Interagency Team  
**SLD/** Specific Learning Disability  
**SLP/** Speech/Language Pathologist  
**SPP/APR/** State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report  
**SSDI/** Social Security Disability Income  
**SSI/** Supplemental Security Income  
**SWD /** Students with Disabilities

**TDD/** Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf

**VICC/** Vermont Interagency Coordinating Council  
**VR/** Vocational Rehabilitation

**WBL/** Work Based Learning  
**WIOA/** Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act