

# Key Terms and Acronyms in Special Education Law

## Free Appropriate Public Education

- FAPE
- An educational right of children with disabilities in the United States that is guaranteed by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

## The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

- IDEA
- Provides educational protections for students who meet criteria necessary for classification in one of the thirteen categories specified under the act.

## Individualized Education Program

- IEP
- A written statement detailing the unique educational needs and services provided to a student with a qualifying disability under IDEA.

## Anti-discrimination act

- Section 504
- Protects students from discrimination based on their disability. Encompasses a broader range of disabilities than IDEA.

## Document generated from Anti-discrimination act provisions

504  
Plan

- Documents strategies and resources afforded to a student with a disability affecting a major life activity in order to prevent discrimination in school.

## Committee on Special Education (age 5-12)

CSE

- A multidisciplinary team, that includes parents and students, responsible for students with disabilities from ages 5-21. The CSE is authorized to identify students in need of services by determining eligibility and develop an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) to meet each student's individual needs.

## Committee on Preschool Special Education (age 3-5)

CPSE

- Similar to CSE, for students ages 3-5.

## Least Restrictive Environment

LRE

- Under the IDEA students must be educated in a classroom setting as close to a general education setting as possible where they can still make academic gains.

## Manifestation Determination Review

MDR

- A meeting to determine whether or not a student's misconduct is a result of their disability or school's failure to implement their IEP when that student is facing a suspension that will exceed 5 days or has been removed from the classroom setting for 10 days (or the equivalent of 10 days).

## Behavior Intervention Plan

- BIP
- A written plan that targets a student's undesirable behavior(s) with interventions that are clearly measurable, including prevention strategies and replacement behaviors.

## Functional Behavior Assessment

- FBA
- A process which examines a student's disruptive behaviors, looks for the reasons behind the behaviors and offers interventions that teach new behaviors to replace the undesired ones.

## Assistive Technology

- AT
- Any device, equipment or software that helps a student with a disability increase, maintain or improve their functional capabilities (excludes medical devices).

## Early Intervention (age 0-3)

- EI
- A system of services that helps babies and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities from birth to their third birthdays.

## Individualized Family Service Plan

- IFSP
- A written treatment plan that maps out the early intervention services a child (age birth to his/her third birthday) will receive, as well as how and when these services will be administered. It details a child's current levels of functioning, specific needs and goals for treatment (referred to as outcomes).

## Regents Competency Test

- RCT
- Exit exams given to identified special education students with Individualized Education Programs or a 504 plan seeking a high school diploma who cannot pass the standard Regents exams.
- 15:1:1 A type of classroom structure common on an IEP or 504 plan consisting of 15 students, 1 teacher, and 1 aid.
- 12:1:1 A type of classroom structure common on an IEP or 504 plan consisting of 12 students, 1 teacher, and 1 aid.
- 6:1:1 A type of classroom structure common on an IEP or 504 plan consisting of 6 students, 1 teacher, and 1 aid.

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