

**APPENDIX A  
SPECIAL EDUCATION ACRONYMS AND GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

<b><u>ACRONYM</u></b>	<b><u>TERM</u></b>	<b><u>DEFINITION</u></b>
<b>504</b>	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act	
<b>ADA</b>	Americans with Disabilities Act	
<b>ADL</b>	Activities of Daily Living	Activities that make a student independent in his environment, such as dressing, eating, and toileting.
<b>ADR</b>	Alternative Dispute Resolution	An interest-based approach to resolving disagreements between two parties.
<b>Ad PE or APE</b>	Adapted Physical Education	Specialized physical education for students with disabilities not able to participate effectively in general education physical education.
<b>ALJ</b>	Administrative Law Judge	

<b><u>ACRONYM</u></b>	<b><u>TERM</u></b>	<b><u>DEFINITION</u></b>
<b>ASD</b>	Autistic Spectrum Disorders (or Autism)	<p>Persistent deficits in social communication and social interaction across multiple contexts, as manifested by the following, currently or by history (examples are illustrative, not exhaustive; see text):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Deficits in social-emotional reciprocity, ranging, for example, from abnormal social approach and failure of normal back-and-forth conversation; to reduced sharing of interests, emotions, or affect; to failure to initiate or respond to social interactions.</li> <li>2. Deficits in nonverbal communicative behaviors used for social interaction, ranging, for example, from poorly integrated verbal and nonverbal communication; to abnormalities in eye contact and body language or deficits in understanding and use of gestures; to a total lack of facial expressions and nonverbal communication.</li> <li>3. Deficits in developing, maintaining, and understand relationships, ranging, for example, from difficulties adjusting behavior to suit various social contexts; to difficulties in sharing imaginative play or in making friends; to absence of interest in peers.</li> </ol>
<b>AT</b>	Assistive Technology	
	Assessment	Observations and testing of children to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the child to develop an appropriate educational plan.
	Behavioral Intervention	The systematic implementation of procedures that results in lasting positive changes in the individual's behavior.
<b>BIP</b>	Behavioral Intervention Plan	A written document which is developed when an individual exhibits a serious behavior problem that significantly interferes with the implementation of the goals and objectives of the individual's IEP. The behavioral intervention plan becomes part of the IEP.

<b><u>ACRONYM</u></b>	<b><u>TERM</u></b>	<b><u>DEFINITION</u></b>
<b>CAC</b>	Community Advisory Committee	A legally mandated organization of parents, school personnel, and various agency representatives which advises the SELPA in development and revision of the Local Plan for Special Education.
<b>CASE</b>	Community Alliance for Special Education	
<b>CBI</b>	Community Based Instruction	A form of instruction in which IEP goals are met in a “natural” environment within the community. For example, math, sequencing, travel, and social skills may be developed through a trip to the grocery store.
<b>CCS</b>	California Children’s Services	State agency that provides specialized medical care and rehabilitation for children with physical impairments who have a medically eligible condition.
<b>CD</b>	Communication Disability	Disorders in processing of language and/or speech sounds.
<b>CDE</b>	California Department of Education	
<b>CDC</b>	California Diagnostic Center	
<b>COS</b>	Council of Superintendents	Decision making body of the SELPA composed of the superintendents of the districts and county office as well as the SELPA director.
	Complaint Compliance	The process of resolving an alleged violation of special education laws or regulations.
<b>DIS</b>	Designated Instruction and Services	Also known as related services, specialized instruction, and/or support services identified through an assessment provided as necessary for a child to benefit from his/her educational program.
<b>DR</b>	Department of Rehabilitation	The California Department of Rehabilitation works in partnership with consumers and other stakeholders to provide services and advocacy resulting in employment, independent living and equality for individuals with disabilities.
<b>DOE</b>	U.S. Department of Education	
<b>DOR</b>	District of Residence or Department of Rehabilitation	

<b><u>ACRONYM</u></b>	<b><u>TERM</u></b>	<b><u>DEFINITION</u></b>
	Due Process	All procedural safeguards of Public Law (P.L.) 94-192 and related laws and regulations. A process for resolving disagreements regarding IEP issues.
<b>EC</b>	California Education Code	The body of regulations which governs education in the State of California.
<b>ED</b>	Emotionally Disturbed	An emotional problem that has existed for a marked degree and over a long period of time which interferes with learning.
<b>ESY</b>	Extended School Year	The special education program provided between school sessions when the IEP team determines they are needed to prevent regression of skills.
	Fair Hearing	A formal hearing that is requested by parents or school district personnel. Issues that may be considered under the fair hearing procedure are limited to eligibility, assessment, the individualized education program, and placement of individuals with exceptional needs. A specially trained hearing officer resolves the issues.
<b>FAA</b>	Functional Analysis Assessment	A behavior analysis assessment which shall occur after the IEP team finds that instructional/behavioral approaches specified in the student's IEP have been ineffective.
<b>FAPE</b>	Free and Appropriate Public Education	Every school-age child with a disability is entitled to an education that meets his/her individual needs, which is at no cost to parents.
<b>FERPA</b>	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act	
<b>FIEP</b>	Facilitated Individual Education Program	A local alternative dispute resolution process where a neutral facilitator helps districts and families reach consensus about the child's IEP.
	Inclusive Education Supported Education Full Inclusion	A process in which a continuum of supported education options are considered for all students and which provides for equal access to the school community. Placement decisions and programming are based on the agreed upon identified educational outcomes.
<b>ICA</b>	Independent Child Advocate	An independent entity who focuses on identifying student needs in respect to legal requirements and best practices.

<b><u>ACRONYM</u></b>	<b><u>TERM</u></b>	<b><u>DEFINITION</u></b>
<b>IDEA</b>	Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act	
<b>IEE</b>	Independent Educational Evaluation	
<b>IEP</b>	Individualized Education Program	A written document, mandated by law, that defines a child's disability, states current levels of educational performance, describes educational needs, and specifies annual goals and short-term objectives/benchmarks, and an evaluation and progress reporting schedule.
	Individualized Education Program Team	A minimum of four individuals who meet to develop and review the student's IEP. The team is composed of an administrator or his/her designee, the student's special education and general education teacher, and the parents. Other members may include the student, those who have assessed the student and others as appropriate.
<b>IFSP</b>	Individualized Family Plan Service	An individualized education plan for an infant or which is developed by the team to identify strengths, needs, concerns, and priorities for early intervention services for students less than 3 years of age.
<b>ITP</b>	Individualized Transition Plan	That portion of the IEP that specifies activities and services for students age 14 and older to facilitate their transition from high school to the adult world. Developed at an IEP meeting, the ITP includes parents, student, school personnel, and agency representatives as appropriate.
<b>IDEA 97</b>	Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, Reauthorized in 1997	An amendment to and reauthorization of Public Law 94-142, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975, which mandates a free, appropriate public education for all children with exceptional needs.
<b>IPP</b>	Individual Program Plan (Regional Center)	
<b>IWEN</b>	Individuals With Exceptional Needs	Individuals from infancy through age 22 identified by an individualized education program team as having a disability or condition that requires specialized instruction and/or services.

<b><u>ACRONYM</u></b>	<b><u>TERM</u></b>	<b><u>DEFINITION</u></b>
<b>LAC</b>	Local Advisory Committee	An optional local advisory body may meet in each district on a monthly basis to discuss special education issues and concerns. A representative from each LAC is recommended to participate and give input to the monthly CAC meetings and may take CAC information back to the LAC.
<b>LRE</b>	Least Restrictive Environment	A learning environment for a student with exceptional needs that meets his learning needs while providing maximum interaction with the general school population in a manner appropriate to the needs of the student and his/her peers.
<b>LEP</b>	Limited English Proficiency	Students whose primary language is other than English, who lack competence in the English language, and for whom linguistically appropriate goals and objectives are developed.
<b>LEA</b>	Local Education Agency (Now known as Public Education Agency)	A school district providing special education service within the SELPA. There are five LEAs within our SELPA.
<b>LP</b>	Local Plan	The document developed by staff and the community that describes the delivery of special education programs and services which will be provided by all districts in the SELPA to meet the educational needs of eligible individuals with exceptional needs. Each SELPA develops a new plan every four years that is approved by the State Department of Education.
<b>LI</b>	Low Incidence Disabilities	Those severe disabling conditions with an expected incidence rate of less than one percent of the total statewide enrollment in kindergarten through grade 12. These conditions are hearing impairments, vision impairments, severe orthopedic impairments, or any combination of these.
<b>MDT</b>	Multidisciplinary Team	Using a combination of the skills of several persons with specialized areas of training for a common purpose, i.e., assessment of a student to determine eligibility for services.

<b><u>ACRONYM</u></b>	<b><u>TERM</u></b>	<b><u>DEFINITION</u></b>
<b>NBRC</b>	North Bay Regional Center	Any person who lives in Sonoma, Solano or Napa counties, regardless of age or income, who is believed to have, or be at risk of having, a developmental disability may receive an assessment from NBRC clinical professionals to determine if he/she is eligible for regional center services to prevent the onset of a disability or to minimize the impact of a disability
<b>NPS</b>	Non-Public School	Licensed private, nonsectarian school that provides special education programs and services for a child whose needs cannot be served within the SELPA.
<b>OAH</b>	Office of Administrative Hearings	
<b>OCR</b>	Office for Civil Rights	
<b>O &amp; M</b>	Orientation and Mobility	Specialized instruction for students with significant visual impairments to develop spatial awareness skills that enable them to move through space and travel independently.
<b>OHI</b>	Other Health Impaired	An eligibility category that specifies certain chronic and acute health problems that result in the students having limited strength, vitality, and alertness which adversely affect his/her educational performance.
<b>OI</b>	Orthopedic Impairment	A physical disability impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance, such as congenital anomalies, impairments caused by disease and from other causes.
<b>OSEP</b>	U.S. Office of Special Education Programs	
<b>OSERS</b>	U.S. Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services	
<b>OT</b>	Occupational Therapy	
<b>PEA</b>	Public Education Agency	See LEA above.
<b>PL 99-547</b>	Public Law 99-547	Education of the Handicapped Act Amendments of 1986 provides for coordination of early intervention services for all young children with disabilities (age 0-3).
<b>PT</b>	Physical Therapy	

<b><u>ACRONYM</u></b>	<b><u>TERM</u></b>	<b><u>DEFINITION</u></b>
<b>PTI</b>	Parent Training and Information Center	
<b>PWN</b>	Prior Written Notice	
	Referral	The request to identify and assess a child's possible special education needs; a referral may be made by a parent, teacher, medical personnel, or anyone with specific knowledge of the child.
	Related Services	Those additional services that a child requires in order to benefit from his educational program.
<b>ROP</b>	Regional Occupation Program	Career and technical training courses which include classroom and community-based education services. They are available to high school students and adults to provide skilled work experiences.
<b>RSP</b>	Resource Specialist Program	Provides students with special education instruction for a portion of their day. Students may receive RSP services in general education classrooms, in a special education classroom, or in both settings.
<b>SEC</b>	Special Education Council	Decision making body composed of directors of special education and SELPA director.
<b>SELPA</b>	Special Education Local Plan Area	A single large school district or a group of smaller school districts within a geographic area in accordance with the law to coordinate the administration and delivery of special education services.
<b>SDC</b>	Special Day Class	An instructional setting through which the student receives special education instruction.
<b>Sp. Ed.</b>	Special Education	Instruction that is specifically designed for each individual student to meet his unique needs. Students who receive special education must meet eligibility requirements under specific disability categories as specified in federal and state law and regulations.
<b>SLD</b>	Specific Learning Disability	A disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or using spoken and/or written language, as well as a severe discrepancy between intellectual ability and achievement.



<b><u>ACRONYM</u></b>	<b><u>TERM</u></b>	<b><u>DEFINITION</u></b>
<b>SLI</b>	Speech/Language Impairment	Difficulty in understanding or using language to the extent that it interferes with learning; also a disability category which includes severe language disorders, hearing impairment, and language delay.
<b>SLP or SLT</b>	Speech and Language Pathologist or Speech and Language Therapist	
<b>SST</b>	Student Study Team Child Study Team	A general education process designed to make instructional modifications within the general education program when a student is experiencing difficulties.
	Surrogate Parent	A person selected by the local school district to act as the parent after determination that the child's actual parent(s) cannot be located. Or after the child has been made a ward of the court, the court has removed the parent's right to make educational decisions for the child.
	Transdisciplinary	A type of assessment approach in which the family and professionals work together to train each other in their area of expertise.
<b>VI</b>	Visual Impairment	A student whose visual acuity, even with correction, adversely affects educational performance. This includes students who are blind or have limited vision.
<b>Voc Ed</b>	Vocational Education	Programs and curriculum designed to assist students in developing self-confidence and vocational competencies to secure future employment and become productive members of their community.