

Program Definitions
and
Related Terms
for
EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION

Penny Collins, Director
Linda Schroder-King, Coordinator

(407) 343-8700

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Adapted Physical Education

A modification of regular physical education for exceptional students as determined by the Individual Education Plan team.

Assistive Technology

Any item, piece of equipment, or product system, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

One who has a disability reflected in severe disorders of communication, behavior socialization, and academic skills, and whose disability was evident in the early developmental stages of childhood.

Deaf or Hard of Hearing (DHH)

One who has a hearing impairment aided or unaided, that interferes in processing linguistic information and which adversely affects communication, developmental skills, academic achievement, vocational-career skills, or social-emotional adjustment. The degree of loss may range from mild to profound.

Dual Sensory Impaired (DSI)

One who has dual sensory impairments affecting both vision and hearing, the combination of which causes a serious impairment in the abilities to acquire information, communicate, or function within the environment, or who has a degenerative condition which will lead to such an impairment.

Emotional/Behavioral Disability (EBD)

One whose condition results in persistent and consistent maladaptive behavior, which exists to a marked degree, and which interferes with the student's learning process.

Exceptional Student Education (ESE)

The services students are given at school. The purpose of ESE is to help each child with a disability to progress in school and prepare for life after school. ESE services may include special teaching methods and materials, technology devices, therapy, special transportation, and/or other supports.

Gifted

One who has superior intellectual development and is capable of high performance.

Homebound or Hospitalized (H/H)

The homebound or hospitalized student is one who has a medically diagnosed physical or mental condition requiring home or hospital confinement and restrictive activities for an extended period of time.

Individual Education Plan (IEP)

A written statement of your child's present level of performance and the educational objectives for the school year.

Intellectual Disabilities (InD)

The three mentally handicapped programs, Educable Mentally Handicapped, Trainable Mentally Handicapped and Profoundly Mentally Handicapped, have been consolidated into one, Intellectual Disabilities (**InD**). The InD program will be for

those with impaired intellectual and adaptive behavior, and whose development reflects a reduced rate of learning.

Occupational Therapy (OT)

A specialized therapy for exceptional students whose physical, motor, or neurological deficits result in significant dysfunction in daily living or academic learning skills.

Orientation and Mobility (O&M)

Orientation is knowing about where one is, where one is going, and how to get there. Mobility is the ability to move from place to place. These terms are used with visually impaired/blind students.

Physically Impaired (PI)

The term physically impaired includes students who are:

- Orthopedically Impaired (OI): An impairment which significantly limits the student's ability to move about, sit or manipulate the materials required for learning; or affects ambulation, posture or body use necessary in school work;
- Other Health Impaired (OHI): A health impairment which results in reduced efficiency in school work because of temporary or chronic lack of strength, vitality, or alertness;
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI): An external injury to the brain as documented by a medical report; and has significant difficulty requiring an adaptation to the school routine, school environment, or curriculum.

Physical Therapy (PT)

A specialized therapy for exceptional students that requires a physician's prescription.

Prekindergarten (PK) Student with Disabilities

One who is five years of age or below and has a sensory, physical, mental, or emotional condition, which significantly affects the attainment of normal developmental milestones.

Resource Compliance Specialist (RCS)

An employee responsible for conducting placement and IEP meetings for ESE students, assisting school personnel in scheduling, completing ESE paperwork, and complying with laws and rules in serving ESE students.

Specific Learning Disabled (SLD)

One who has a disorder of the heterogeneous group of psychological processing disorders manifested by significant difficulties in the acquisition and use of language, reading, writing, or mathematics.

Speech and/or Language Impaired (SI and/or LI and/or SL)

One whose impairments are defined as disorders of language, articulation, fluency, or voice which interfere with communication, pre-academic or academic learning, vocational training, or social adjustment.

Varying Exceptionalities (VE)

A class consisting of more than one exceptionality.

Visually Impaired (VI)

One whose impairments are defined as disorders in the structure and function of the eye that, even with the best correction and treatment, interfere with learning.

Blind individuals are those who, after the best possible ocular correction, have no vision or have little potential for using vision and rely on tactual or auditory senses for learning. Partially sighted individuals are those who, after the best possible adjustments and ocular corrections, use remaining vision for learning.

Terry Andrews, Superintendent
The School District of Osceola County, Florida

