

Like all professions, education and special education have their own “language.” Sometimes, in the interest of efficiency, we use abbreviations or acronyms, which we realize can be confusing. To help you, we offer this partial list of frequently used acronyms.

AB 3632 – Mental Health Services provided by CMH
ABA – Applied Behavior Analysis
ADA – Average Daily Attendance
ADD – Attention Deficit Disorder
ADHD – Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
ADI – Autism Diagnostic Interview Revised
ADOS – Autism Diagnostic Observation Scale
APE – Adapted Physical Education
ASD – Autism Spectrum Disorder
AT – Assistive Technology
AUT – Autism
BA – Behavioral Aide
BD – Behavioral Disorder
BICM – Behavior Intervention Case Manager
BIP – Behavior Intervention Plan
BSP – Behavior Support Plan
CAC – Community Advisory Committee
CAHSEE – California High School Exit Examination
CARS – Childhood Autism Rating Scale
CASP – California Association of School Psychologists
CCS – California Children's Services
CDE – California Department of Education
CEC – Council for Exceptional Children
CHAT – Checklist for Autism in Toddlers
CMH – County Mental Health
DHH – Deaf & Hard of Hearing
DIS – Designated Instruction & Services
DMH – Department of Mental Health
DSM-IV – Diagnostic & Statistical Manual

ED – Emotionally Disturbed
EHA – Education for All Handicapped Children Act
ESL – English as a Second Language
ESY – Extended School Year
FAA – Functional Analysis Assessment
FAPE – Free Appropriate Public Education
FBA – Functional Behavior Assessment
FERPA – Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act
HI – Hearing Impaired
IA – Instructional Aide
IDEA – Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004
IEE – Independent Educational Evaluation
IEP – Individualized Education Program
IFSP – Individualized Family Services Plan
IPP – Individual Program Plan
ISP – Individualized Services Plan
IWEN – Individual with Exceptional Needs
LCI – Licensed Children's Institution
LD – Learning Disability
LEA – Local Education Agency
LEP – Limited English Proficient
LRE – Least Restrictive Environment
MCHAT – Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers
MR – Mentally Retarded
NCLB – No Child Left Behind
NPA – Non-Public Agency
NPS – Non-Public School
OAH – Office of Administrative Hearings
OCD – Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
OCR – Office of Civil Rights

ODD – Oppositional Defiant Disorder
OHI – Other Health Impaired
OI – Orthopedically Impaired
OSEP – Office of Special Education Programs
OT – Occupational Therapy
PDD – Pervasive Developmental Disorder
PDD-NOS – Pervasive Developmental Disorder Not Otherwise Specified
PECS – Picture Exchange Communication System
PLAAFP – Present Levels of Academic Achievement & Functional Performance
PRT – Pivotal Response Therapy
PT – Physical Therapy
PWN – Prior Written Notice
RSP – Resource Specialist Program
RTI² – Response to Intervention
SBE – State Board of Education
SDC – Special Day Class
SEA – State Education Agency
SELPA – Special Education Local Plan Area
SLD – Specific Learning Disability
SLI – Speech and Language Impaired
SST – Student Study Team
STAR – Standardized Testing & Reporting
TBI – Traumatic Brain Injury
TEACCH – Treatment & Education of Autistic and Related Communication Handicapped Children
USDOE – United States Department of Education
VI – Visually Impaired

