In Special Education there are often many uncommon or confusing terms and acronyms used. Below is a compiled list of commonly used acronyms that you may see on an IEP or hear in discussions about special education. Please keep in mind, when in a meeting if you are unsure about a word or acronym; please don’t hesitate to ask for clarification.

For a more extensive list of Washington State Education Acronyms you can also visit: OSPI (Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction) [http://www.k12.wa.us/generalinfo/acronyms.aspx](http://www.k12.wa.us/generalinfo/acronyms.aspx)

AAC | Alternative Augmentative Communication
ABA | Applied Behavioral Analysis
ABC | Antecedent, Behavior, Consequence
ADA | Americans with Disabilities Act
ADD/ADHD | Attention Deficit/Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
ADLs | Activities of Daily Living
ADR | Alternative Dispute Resolution
AE | Age Equivalent
AIM | Accessible Instructional Materials
APE | Adaptive Physical Education
APR | Annual Performance Report
ARD | Admission, Review, and Dismissal Committee
ASD | Autism Spectrum Disorder
ASL | American Sign Language
AT | Assistive Technology
ATA | Assistive Technology Act
AYP | Adequate Yearly Progress
BD | Behavioral Disorder
BIE | Bureau of Indian Education
BIP | Behavioral Intervention Plan
BOE | Board of Education
CAA | Certificate of Academic Achievement
CAP | Corrective Action Plan
CAPD | Central Auditory Processing Disorder
CAPTA | Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act
CBA | Curriculum Based Assessment
CBPA | Classroom Based Performance Assessments
CC | Closed Captioning
CCR | College and Career Readiness Standards
CCSS | Common Core State Standards
CD | Communication Disorder
CDA | Child Development Associate
CDC | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CEC | Council for Exceptional Children
CF | Cystic Fibrosis
CFR | Code of Federal Regulations
CHIP | Children’s Health Insurance Program
CIA | Certificate of Individual Achievement
CIFMS | Continuous Improvement and Focused Monitoring System
COE | Collection of Evidence
COP | Community of Practice
COTA | Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant
CP | Cerebral Palsy
CPRC | Community Parent Resource Center
CSHCN | Children with Special Health Care Needs
CST | Child Study Team
CTE | Career and Technical Education
DB | Deaf-Blind
DCFS | Division of Children and Family Services
DD | Developmental Delay
DDA | Developmental Disabilities Association
DEL | Department of Early Learning
DOB | Date of Birth
DOH | Department of Health
DS | Down Syndrome
DSHS | Department of Social and Health Services
DSM | Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders by the American Psychiatric Association
DVR | Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
EBP | Evidence Based Practice
ECE | Early Childhood Education
ECEAP | Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program
ECP | Emergency Care Plan
ECSE | Early Childhood Special Education
ED | Emotional Disturbance
EF | Executive Function
EHDI | Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program
EI | Early Intervention
EIS | Early Intervening Services
ELA | English Language Arts
ELL | English Language Learner
EOC | End of Course Exam
EPSDT | Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment
ERIC | Educational Resources Information Center
ESA | Educational Staff Associates
ESD | Educational Service District
ESD | Extended School Day
ESEA | Elementary and Secondary Education Act
ESIT | Early Supports for Infant and Toddlers
ESY | Extended School Year
FAPE | Free Appropriate Public Education
FAS | Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
FBA | Functional Behavioral Assessment
FC | Facilitated Communication
FERPA | Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
FOC | Focus of Concern
FOIA | Freedom of Information Act
FTE | Full-Time Equivalent
GE | General Education
GE | General Equivalent
GLE | Grade Level Expectations
GPA | Grade Point Average
GPRA | Government Performance and Results Act
GT | Gifted and Talented
HI | Hearing Impaired or Health Impaired
HIPAA | Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act
HO | Hearing Officer
HoH | Hard of Hearing
HSPE | High School Proficiency Exam
HQT | Highly Qualified Teacher
IA | Instructional Assistant
ID | Intellectual Disabilities
IDEA | Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IDT | Interdisciplinary Team
IEE | Individualized Educational Evaluation
IEP | Individualized Education Program
IFSP | Individualized Family Service Plan
IHE | Institution of Higher Education
IHP | Individual Health Plan
IQ | Intelligence Quotient
ITP | Individualized Transition Plan
LAP | Learning Assistance Program
LD | Learning Disability
LDA | Locally Determined Assessment
LEA | Local Education Agency
LEP | Limited English Proficiency
LPN | Licensed Practical Nurse
LRE | Least Restrictive Environment
MA | Mental Age
MD | Multiple Disabilities
MD | Muscular Dystrophy
MDR | Manifestation Determination Review
MDT | Multi-Disciplinary Team
MOU | Memorandum of Understanding
NA | Not Applicable
NCLB | No Child Left Behind Act (Elementary and Secondary Education Act)
NPRM | Notice of Proposed Rule Making
OCD | Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
OCR | Office for Civil Rights
ODD | Oppositional Defiant Disorder
OHI | Other Health Impairment
OI | Orthopedic Impairment
O & M | Orientation and Mobility Services
OSEP | Office of Special Education Programs at the U.S. Department of Education
OSPI | Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
OT | Occupational Therapy
Part B | Special Education—School Age Children
Part C | Special Education– Birth to Three
P&A | Protection & Advocacy
PALS | Peer-Assisted Learning System
PARCC | Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers
PASS | Plan for Achieving Self-Support
PBIS | Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports
PBS | Positive Behavioral Supports
PCA | Personal Care Attendant
PDA | Parent Designated Adult
PDD | Pervasive Developmental Disorder
PE | Physical Education
PEI | Spanish acronym for the Individualized Education Program (Plan Educativo Individualizado)
PI | Physically Impaired
PII | Personally Identifiable Information
PLAAPP | Present Level of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance
PP | Paraprofessional
PS | Preschool
PT | Physical Therapy
RCW | Revised Code of Washington
RDA | Results-Driven Accountability
RFP | Request for Proposals
RN | Registered Nurse
RS | Related Services
RTI | Response to Intervention
§ | This symbol means “Section” as in “§ 300.7 Child with a disability” in the IDEA regulations
SAS | Supplementary Aids and Services
SB | Spina Bifida
SBA | Smarter Balanced Assessment
SCHIP | State Children’s Health Insurance Program
SDI | Specially Designed Instruction
SE | Special Education
SEA | State Education Agency
SEAC | Special Education Advisory Council
Section 504 | Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act
SED | Serious Emotional Disturbance
SLD | Specific Learning Disability
SLI | Speech/Language Impairment
SLP | Speech/Language Pathologist
SPD | Sensory Processing Disorder
SPP | State Performance Plan
SS | Standard Score
SSA | Social Security Administration
SSDI | Social Security Disability Income
SSI | Supplemental Security Income
SST | Student Study Team
STO | Short Term Objective
TBI | Traumatic Brain Injury
TDD | Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf
TS | Tourette syndrome
T&TA | Training and Technical Assistance
TTY | Teletypewriter (phone system for the deaf)
VI | Visual Impairment
VR | Vocational Rehabilitation
WAC | Washington Administrative Code
WAAS | Washington Alternate Assessment System
WATAP | Washington Assistive Technology Act Program